

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND

England & Wales · Charity number 1095897

Details

Other names	CARAVAN, GROCERYAID
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	04620683
Registered	2003-02-10
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Unit 2 Lakeside Business Park Swan Lane Sandhurst Berkshire GU47 9DN
Phone	01252875925
Email	info@groceryaid.org.uk
Website	www.groceryaid.org.uk

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECTS OF THE CHARITY ARE:- 3.1.1 THE RELIEF OF PERSONS IN NEED BY REASON OF YOUTH, AGE, ILL-HEALTH, DISABILITY, FINANCIAL HARDSHIP OR OTHER DISADVANTAGE WHO: (A) ARE OR HAVE BEEN ENGAGED IN THE GROCERY TRADE, IN ANY CAPACITY; OR (B) ARE THE SURVIVING SPOUSE, CIVIL PARTNER OR OTHERWISE LONG TERM PARTNER OR CHILD (OR OTHER DEPENDANT OR FORMER DEPENDANT) OF PERSONS WHO HAVE BEEN ENGAGED IN THE GROCERY TRADE; AND 3.1.2 TO UNDERTAKE ANY OTHER CHARITABLE PURPOSE UNDER THE LAW OF ENGLAND AND WALES. IN THIS ARTICLE 3, "GROCERY TRADE" MEANS ANY WORK RELATING TO THE MANUFACTURING, LOGISTICS, DISTRIBUTION AND SALES OF GROCERIES OR OTHER PRODUCTS TYPICALLY SOLD IN SUPERMARKETS, WHETHER WHOLESALE OR RETAIL. FOR THE AVOIDANCE OF DOUBT, THIS DEFINITION SHALL INCLUDE THE OFF-LICENCE TRADE.

Activities: We tackle hardship amongst those who have worked or are working in the grocery trade, whether in manufacturing, distribution, wholesale or retail. We give financial help via regular and one-off crisis grants,

and supply essential household items and independent living aids. We offer practical and emotional support for a wide range of personal and welfare issues via our 24/7 helpline and website.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, Other Defined Groups

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** NATIONAL
- Northern Ireland
- Scotland
- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£27,306,537	£22,292,334	£17,980,756	57
2024-03-31	£15,850,964	£15,728,287	£13,218,667	53
2023-03-31	£14,606,474	£14,405,580	£12,574,396	41
2022-03-31	£12,279,313	£12,386,484	£12,954,366	36
2021-03-31	£8,732,777	£6,665,050	£12,388,919	29

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Alexander Hodge		2025-09-09
Alison Cheung		2024-10-24
Anthony Lorman		2025-05-07
DAWOOD PERVEZ		2020-09-22
Gareth Francis Helm		2026-02-05
HELEN MARY TUCKER		2016-07-19
Hayley Tatum		2021-05-11
Helen Elizabeth Murray		2018-09-24
Johanna Dickinson		2025-05-07
LORRAINE DENISE HENDLE		2016-11-22
Laia Collazos Amat		2026-02-05
Mark McKenzie		2020-02-04
Richard Crampton		2024-09-04

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND

England & Wales - Charity number 1095897

Accounts

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID

**A Company Limited by Guarantee
Registered Charity**

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31st MARCH 2025

**Registered Charity Number 1095897 (England & Wales) SC039255 (Scotland)
Company Registered in England and Wales Number 04620683**

Registered Office and Principal Address:

**2 Lakeside Business Park,
Swan Lane,
Sandhurst, Berkshire
GU47 9DN**

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2025

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NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID**LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS****Directors and Trustees**

The directors of the charitable company ("the Charity") are its Trustees for the purposes of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the Trustees. An explanation of the method of appointment of Trustees is provided in the Trustees' Report.

The Trustees serving during the year and at the time the accounts were signed were:

R H Bartlett	(resigned 04/09/2024)	
A Cheung	(appointed 24/10/2024)	Treasurer
R Crampton	(appointed 04/09/2024)	
B W Dalla Mura	(resigned 07/05/2025)	
J M Dickinson	(appointed 07/05/2025)	
L D Hendle		
A Hodge	(appointed 09/09/2025)	
A Lorman	(appointed 07/05/2025)	
M McKenzie		
H E Murray		
D Pervez		
M P Smith		
R A M Smith		Chair
L A Stigant		
H M Tatum		
H M Tucker		
J C Uttley	(resigned 09/09/2025)	
D C Wheeler	(resigned 24/10/2024)	
M R Williamson	(resigned 07/05/2025)	

Life Patrons	Lord Price CVO; Mike Coupe; Paul Monk
President	Rami Baitieth
Chief Executive	Kieran Hemsworth (Appointed 4 th September 2023)
Company Secretary	Catherine Robinson-McCormick
Registered Office	2 Lakeside Business Park, Swan Lane, Sandhurst, Berkshire GU47 9DN
Website	www.groceryaid.org.uk
Email	info@groceryaid.org.uk
Independent Auditors	Moore Kingston Smith LLP, 9 Appold Street, London, EC2A 2AP
Bankers	Lloyds Bank, 24 Broad Street, Reading, Berkshire, RG1 2BT
Investment providers	CCLA Investment Management Limited, London Newton Investment Management Limited, London Rathbone Brothers Plc, London Quilter Cheviot, London

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TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

CHAIR'S STATEMENT

I am pleased to present this year's report. In this report, you will see the continued and significant increase in demand for support by our grocery colleagues and how we have responded both in terms of our fundraising and extending our service to colleagues in need.

To make sure we continue to provide effective support to our industry colleagues, during the year, we worked with external consultants to understand the volume and type of support that will be needed in the future which influenced our 2030 Vision— which focuses on increasing awareness of our services, improving welfare accessibility and diversifying our income.

As part of the execution of this vision, over the past year, we have significantly expanded our reach and capacity to support grocery colleagues in need. This included over 8,500 financial grants, more than 12,300 helpline calls, and around 6,400 counselling sessions. These efforts reflect our unwavering commitment to providing practical and timely support to those that need it right across the industry.

As a charity, we recognise we need to reach more colleagues in our industry to provide them with the support they need and deserve. Our future focus will be on increasing awareness and accessibility to GroceryAid and we will shortly announce steps we are taking to increase awareness, across our industry, to help even more people in need. To support this ambition, in future we will report on the number of industry colleagues we are supporting as well as how we are continuously improving our offer for colleagues in their moment of need.

Financially, the Charity reported a surplus of £4.8 million, mainly due to the grant of funds received from the Tobacco Trade Charity, where we have assumed responsibility for their beneficiaries. Unrestricted fund performance remained stable, with a controlled deficit of £0.1 million aligned to planned investments to deliver our 2030 Vision. Total welfare spending rose by 33% to £8.4 million, and we ended the year with free reserves of £11.4 million and a cash balance of £2.2 million which we are using to support a rapid increase in the number of people in need.

This year we welcomed Rami Baitieh as our Charity President who replaced Allan Leighton for whom we are really grateful for the excellent contribution he made to the charity.

We also welcomed Caro Bell and Megan Harrison to our leadership team to strengthen our IT and marketing capabilities to help us deliver our 2030 vision.

We have made important strides to modernise our IT infrastructure and operations and strengthen employee engagement, including a new CRM system, an event management app, and ongoing development of grants and finance platforms. Our refreshed vision and values now guide a more engaged and connected team.

In a world of increasing uncertainty, the Board continues to take a proactive approach to risk management. In addition, our Reserves Policy reflects our risk-based approach. Allowing for our key risks and mitigation plans, the Trustees are confident that maintaining a minimum reserve of £6 million ensures financial resilience.

From an events point of view, we were delighted to host the Tesco Glitz Ball and to have launched successful new events with Morrisons and Booker. We have since held our Barcode Music Festival at a larger venue to allow more people to attend and we are delighted that this has allowed us to further increase the number and diversity of our supporter base. During the year, a number of

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changes were made to the Trustee Board, in line with the Charity's terms of service and agreed succession plans. We extend our sincere thanks to Rhian Bartlett, Bart Dalla Mura, Jason Uttley, David Wheeler and Mark Williamson for their valuable contributions and dedicated long term service.

We were pleased to welcome several new Trustees to the Board: Alison Chueng, who joins as our new Treasurer, along with Richard Crampton, Alex Hodge, Anthony Lorman, and Johanna Dickinson. Their expertise and commitment will be instrumental in guiding the Charity through its next phase of growth and impact.

I have worked for the charity for 17 years which has been an absolute privilege. In line with our terms of office and succession plan, I will be stepping down in the next 12 months but will leave the charity in a strong position with a highly experienced and capable board and team to lead us into the years ahead. [We aim to announce my successor, as Chair, in early 2026.]

As we look ahead, I remain proud of the Charity's enduring role in supporting our industry and inspired by the generosity of our partners and the dedication of our leadership and trustee teams. I have so many people to thank. Together, we are building a stronger, and even more scalable and responsive organisation equipped for the future.

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Ruston Smith
Chair of GroceryAid Trustees

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2025

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The National Grocers Benevolent Fund, trading as GroceryAid, is a registered charity in England and Wales (registration number 1095897) and Scotland (registration number SC039255) and is constituted as a company limited by guarantee (registration number 04620683). Its governing document is its memorandum and articles of association.

The Charity is run by 14 Trustees who are also directors and members of the limited company. In that capacity the Trustees select new members of the Board of Trustees.

Trustees are responsible for compliance with our legal and statutory requirements and the safe and effective running of the charity. They meet at least every quarter to discuss and review both the day-to-day operations and the strategic direction of the charity. In addition, the Trustees also meet on an ad hoc basis when required.

The Trustees appoint the Chief Executive who manages the day-to-day operations of the Charity and reports to the quarterly Trustee meetings and contributes to the discussions in an advisory capacity. The senior direct reports are Mandi Leonard, Welfare Director, Jane Hill, Fundraising Director, Megan Harrison, Marketing Director, Caro Bell, IT Director, Alicia Oughton, Head of HR and Catherine Robinson-McCormick, Finance Director.

Remuneration for key management personnel is determined by a sub-committee of the Trustee Board - the Remuneration Committee. This committee has specific delegated responsibilities to:

- Set the remuneration policy for directors (salary, pension and benefits) in line with the approach taken for GroceryAid's employees
- Determine salary levels for directors considering:
- Individual directors' capabilities and contribution
- Salary levels for comparable roles in organisation identified as suitable benchmarks;
- Salary levels across GroceryAid; and
- Overall appropriateness given charitable purpose, stakeholder perception and affordability.
- Be kept informed by the Chief Executive of any significant changes in the remuneration arrangements for GroceryAid's employees.
- The objectives of our senior remuneration policy are:
- To be able to recruit and retain individuals who will lead the successful delivery of our mission
- To reward them fairly by taking account of their contribution, market levels and experience within GroceryAid.

The Remuneration Committee meets at least twice annually and is chaired by Hayley Tatum.

Various Trustees and industry colleagues sit on one or more of our six sub-committees covering nominations, remuneration, welfare, welfare strategy, finance and fundraising. These committees consider each of their areas in depth and report to the Trustee Board on key developments, risks, plans and initiatives. These committees each have formal Terms of Reference and these are set out in the GroceryAid Policy Document, which is reviewed and updated annually. This document also contains various processes and procedures to ensure that we have appropriate controls in place for the effective and efficient operation of the charity.

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From 2018, it was agreed that Trustees can serve for a three-year period and may be re-elected to serve for two further three-year periods i.e. a total of three terms. As a result, we have a number of Trustees reaching their maximum tenure in the next few years and a programme of transition is in place to ensure that the Charity's Trustee Board maintains suitable breadth of skills, diversity and length of service.

All GroceryAid Trustees have signed an 'Eligibility to Serve' declaration form, and a Declaration of Interest and Connected Persons form. The possible existence of conflicts of interest is considered prior to the start of every meeting of the Board of Trustees. The Declaration of Interest and Connected Persons forms are completed annually and are held on file at the GroceryAid offices.

All nominations are approved by the Board of Trustees. All new Trustees have a formal induction that covers the role of the Charity and what is expected of them in their role as GroceryAid Trustees. Governance requirements of both Trustees and Senior Management are incorporated into the GroceryAid Policy Manual which forms part of ongoing training and updates at Trustee meetings.

No Trustees are paid by the Charity for their services.

Charity law requires organisations to demonstrate explicitly that their aims are for public benefit. The charitable activities of GroceryAid are available to people in need who are, or have been, engaged in the grocery or provisions trade, greengrocers and the off-licence trade, in any capacity and for their surviving spouses, civil partners and dependent children. The Trustee Board has discussed the issue of public benefit and are confident that the breadth and scope of the work of the Charity, as disclosed in this Report, clearly falls within the guidelines set in Section 17 of the 2011 Charities Act.

OBJECTIVES & ACTIVITIES

The objectives of the Charity are the provision of relief to persons in need, whether that be through ill health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage who:

- are or have been engaged in the grocery trade, in any capacity; or
- are the surviving spouse, civil partner or otherwise long-term partner or child (or other dependent or former dependent) of persons who have been engaged in the grocery trade

The term 'grocery trade' means any work relating to the manufacturing, logistics, distribution or sales of groceries or other products typically sold in supermarkets, whether wholesale or retail. For the avoidance of doubt, this includes the off-licence trade.

Our vision is that everyone engaged in this trade, who is in need of our welfare services, can turn to us for help. Our long-term objectives are to work with the industry to identify and support those in need, to address social isolation through our Helpline and Carer's initiative and to enhance our income streams to further support our industry colleagues.

The key activities of the Charity are providing emotional, practical and financial support to colleagues working in the grocery sector, who meet our eligibility criteria as agreed and regularly reviewed by the Trustees. This includes, but is not exclusive to:

- Non-repayable financial grants
- 24/7 freephone Helpline providing emotional and practical support
- Relationship counselling
- Legal advice
- Digital wellbeing support
- Online wellbeing platform

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- Workplace critical incident support
- Managers support line
- Debt advice
- Online financial wellbeing
- Gambling addiction support

Emotional and practical support services are delivered in partnership with expert, third party organisations, to provide bespoke services to colleagues.

FUNDRAISING

The vast majority of the Charity's income comes from the industry we work to support. This can be in the form of donations and/or by supporting regional and national fundraising events. The remainder is derived from the charity's investments.

GroceryAid fundraises through industry events organised by its branches and its central fundraising team, who on occasion use the services of event management companies to assist in organising events.

No monies are raised by public collections. As a result, the Charity can be sure there are no fundraising approaches made to vulnerable individuals. GroceryAid does not receive any support from either local or central government.

GroceryAid is registered with the Fundraising Regulator and follows the fundraising code. GroceryAid has not received any complaints about its fundraising activities.

RESERVES POLICY

The aim of our Reserves Policy is to ensure the sustainability of the Charity.

The Charity uses a risk-based approach to the setting of its minimum level of reserves.

The sustainability of the fund is paramount to our beneficiaries and the Trustees believe that having considered our key risks and their potential impact, a minimum level of £6M of reserves is sufficient to cover the current worst-case scenario, identified as part of a stress testing exercise. As of 31st March 2025, GroceryAid's free reserves were £11.4M – where the excess reserves will support meeting the welfare needs of our beneficiaries, but also the investment to support the delivery of our 2030 vision.

As described in the Strategic Report, we have developed a strategy to raise awareness of the Charity within the industry. We are therefore anticipating a significant increase in applications for financial support as a result of this work and therefore we expect the level of excess reserves will be reduced over the next 12 months and beyond.

GOING CONCERN

During the year to 31st March 2025, the Charity has been able to run a full calendar of events and moreover increased the number of events we run. The FY26 calendar of events are already over 90% sold out and demand for tickets remains strong.

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Careful cash management has ensured that the Charity has maintained a strong cash balance. Furthermore, over the last three years, the Charity has not needed to draw down reserves.

The Trustees have assessed the principal risks and formulated a suitable reserves policy as stated above. A number of scenarios have been modelled based on different income and demand assumptions. Based on the results of these models and the level of reserves, the Trustees are satisfied that GroceryAid, the charitable organisation, has adequate resources to continue as a going concern.

INVESTMENT POLICY AND PERFORMANCE

As of 31st March 2025, GroceryAid's investment fund was valued at £16,034,947.

This is held by the Charity to underpin the value of Reserves retained to ensure the Charity's sustainability. The Trustees' objective is that the Reserves do not decrease in real value by aiming to achieve long-term capital growth ahead of inflation.

The Reserves are also key in the provision of income to help fund current expenditure. To meet these objectives the Trustee Board has set a target return of CPI +3% per year over a rolling five-year period. This is a target, and the Trustees acknowledge that due to fluctuations in markets this may not always be possible.

The GroceryAid Finance Committee is a sub-committee of the Trustee board and meets at least quarterly to review financial controls within the charity, oversee investment performance and recommend changes to the investments as necessary. Our Investment Policy allows us to manage the money we raise and the money we need to have in reserve for unforeseen eventualities.

As of the 31st March 2025, 99% of the reserves were invested in four Common Investment Funds. These are: Newton Growth and Income Fund for Charities, Newton Global Higher Income Fund, Rathbone's Core Investment Fund for Charities, CCLA Charities Property Fund and Quilter Cheviot. The remaining 1% is held in cash deposits.

With regard to ethical investing, the Trustees continue to be satisfied that our investment managers invest responsibly, having regard of Environment, Social and Governance considerations and our managers exercise stewardship responsibilities in an appropriate way.

SUBSIDIARY COMPANY

The Charity has a wholly owned trading subsidiary which is incorporated in the U.K., GroceryAid Trading Limited, company registration No. 2952403. The company undertakes certain fundraising activities to raise money for its parent company, the National Grocers Benevolent Fund. The company utilises resources from the parent company, which it pays for on an arms-length basis as resources are required.

The company generated a profit for the year of £6.5M and had net assets of £4.7M on the Balance Sheet date.

The Charity will continue to use the Trading Company in future years and will continue to review whether certain fundraising activities are more appropriate for the Trading Company.

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STATEMENT OF TRUSTEE'S RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees (who are also the directors of National Grocers Benevolent Fund for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the group and charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the group for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- The Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

AUDITORS

A resolution will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting with regard to audit arrangements for the forthcoming financial year.

DocuSigned by:

Ruston Smith

BY ORDER OF THE TRUSTEES

Ruston Smith (Chair)

20 October 2025

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID

STRATEGIC REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2025

PERFORMANCE

The Charity continued to perform strongly throughout the financial year, generating increased income, expanding welfare provision, and supporting a greater number of grocery colleagues in need.

Key highlights from the year include the successful onboarding of the work to administer support and grants to the beneficiaries of the Tobacco Trade Charity. Other notable developments were the appointment of Rami Baitieh as Charity President and the acquisition of rights to host the Tesco Glitz Ball. In alignment with our 2030 Vision, we also enhanced the leadership team with the appointments of Caro Bell as IT Director and Megan Harrison as Marketing Director, addressing important capability gaps.

To significantly raise awareness of the Charity and its welfare services, we have repositioned the GroceryAid brand and are currently developing a relaunch plan. This will include a refreshed visual identity and a comprehensive communication strategy.

The Charity's impact continues to grow. In the past year, we awarded over 8,500 financial grants, marking a 23% year-on-year increase. Additionally, our helpline received more than 12,300 calls, and we delivered 5,300 in-the-moment counselling sessions, along with structured counselling support for over 1,100 colleagues.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Charity reported an overall surplus of £4.8 million, positively impacted by the addition of £5.6 million from the Tobacco Trade Charity reserves, which was recognised as restricted funds income.

The Charity's unrestricted funds continued to perform well, with a modest deficit of £0.1 million. This reflects our ongoing strategic investments aligned with the delivery of our 2030 Vision.

Income increased significantly, driven by the acquisition of the rights to host the Tesco Glitz Ball, which resulted in a substantial uplift in event contributions. Further growth was supported by the introduction of new fundraising events, including Morrisons' Big Night Out and the Booker Dragon Boat Race. The Charity also continues to benefit from a £1 million annual donation from the Unilever Trade Charities Trust, which funds the School Essentials Grant.

To meet the rising demand for our welfare services, we increased our welfare expenditure to £8.4 million—representing a 26% year-on-year increase.

At the end of the financial year the Charity's free reserves were £11.4m and the cash bank balance was £4.5m.

PRINCIPAL RISKS & MITIGATIONS

GroceryAid's Risk Management Policy is designed to identify and assess significant risks that may impact the Charity's ability to achieve its objectives.

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Both short-term and long-term risks are reviewed by the Trustee Board during quarterly meetings. The Charity's risk assessment procedures are also subject to regular review, and appropriate systems are in place to mitigate identified risks. These assessments are documented in our Policy Document, which is updated and issued annually.

The Trustees have identified the following as key risks and corresponding mitigation strategies:

- **Cybersecurity Threats:**
The potential for financial and reputational damage resulting from a cyber attack remains a significant concern, particularly as cybercrime continues to grow in scale and complexity. This risk is managed through regular staff training, alongside external penetration testing and phishing simulations, which help identify and address potential vulnerabilities.
- **Insufficient Fundraising Income:**
The risk that income from donations and fundraising activities may not be sufficient to meet the needs of our beneficiaries is closely monitored. This is addressed through regular discussions at Trustee meetings and via the Fundraising Committee, chaired by the President of GroceryAid. The Committee comprises over 50 senior industry leaders and meets three times per year to review and strengthen our fundraising strategy.
- **Regulatory Compliance Failures:**
Breaches of regulatory requirements could result in enforcement actions, financial penalties, organisational closure, or—particularly in the case of Health & Safety failures—serious harm or loss of life. This risk is mitigated through the implementation of robust policies and procedures, comprehensive insurance coverage, independent audits, and regular reviews to ensure ongoing compliance with best practice and relevant legislation.

Based on the latest risk review and potential impact, a minimum of £6m of reserves is sufficient to cover the worst case scenario.

FUTURE PLANS

Strategy and Business Plan

During the year, the Charity collaborated with an external consultancy to develop a long-term strategic plan—our 2030 Vision—with the overarching goal of supporting more grocery colleagues in need. This work identified three key strategic drivers:

- **Increasing Awareness of Welfare Services**
To raise awareness of the Charity's welfare offer, we have enhanced the capabilities of our marketing team, refreshed our brand positioning, and are preparing for a full brand relaunch later this year.
- **Improving Accessibility of Support**
To make our services more accessible, particularly for younger colleagues, we have partnered with a new welfare services provider, Spectrum Life. This partnership enables access through modern communication channels such as WhatsApp live chat and dedicated welfare apps.
- **Growing and Diversifying Income Streams**
To ensure long-term financial sustainability, we are focused on expanding and diversifying our income. This includes targeting trusts and foundations, building strategic partnerships,

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID

and pursuing opportunities to work with other charities within the sector to maximise benefit to beneficiaries. In support of this, we acquired the Tobacco Trade Charity beneficiaries, expanded our philanthropy team, and are currently piloting a strategic relationship initiative with a key supporter.

In addition to these strategic drivers, we identified core enablers to modernise the Charity's operations and enhance internal engagement. We have implemented a new CRM database and event management app, and we are progressing the development of a new grants management system, finance system, and broader IT infrastructure upgrades.

To strengthen employee engagement, we refreshed the Charity's vision and values.

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BY ORDER OF THE TRUSTEES

Ruston Smith (Chair)

20 October 2025

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS AND TRUSTEES OF NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, TRADING AS GROCERYAID****Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of National Grocers Benevolent Fund (the 'parent charitable company') and its subsidiaries (the 'group') for the year ended 31 March 2025 which comprise of the Group Statement of Financial Activities, the Group and Parent Charitable Company Balance Sheets, the Group Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and the parent charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2025 and of the group's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 (as amended) and regulations 6 and 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the group's and parent charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID**Other information**

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained in the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the strategic report and the trustees' annual report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the strategic report and the trustees' annual report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and parent charitable company and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the strategic report or the trustees' annual report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 or the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the parent charitable company has not kept adequate and sufficient accounting records, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the parent charitable company's financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the group and parent charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the group or parent charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under Section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and under the Companies Act 2006 and report to you in accordance with regulations made under those Acts.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK) we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purposes of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the group and parent charitable company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the trustees.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the group and parent charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the group or parent charitable company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID

- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the group to express an opinion on the consolidated financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the group audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit report.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Explanation as to what extent the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below.

The objectives of our audit in respect of fraud, are; to identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud; to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the assessed risks of material misstatement due to fraud, through designing and implementing appropriate responses to those assessed risks; and to respond appropriately to instances of fraud or suspected fraud identified during the audit. However, the primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of fraud rests with both management and those charged with governance of the charitable company.

Our approach was as follows:

- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory requirements applicable to the charitable company and considered that the most significant are the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 (as amended), regulations 6 and 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended), the Charity SORP, and UK financial reporting standards as issued by the Financial Reporting Council
- We obtained an understanding of how the charitable company complies with these requirements by discussions with management and those charged with governance.
- We assessed the risk of material misstatement of the financial statements, including the risk of material misstatement due to fraud and how it might occur, by holding discussions with management and those charged with governance.
- We inquired of management and those charged with governance as to any known instances of non-compliance or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- Based on this understanding, we designed specific appropriate audit procedures to identify instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. This included making enquiries of management and those charged with governance and obtaining additional corroborative evidence as required.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above. We are less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations that are not closely related to events and transactions reflected in the financial statements. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID

may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and to the charitable company's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members and trustees those matters which we are required to state to them in an auditor's report addressed to them and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to any party other than the charitable company and charitable company's members as a body, and the charity's trustees, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Signed by:

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22 October 2025

Luke Holt (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Moore Kingston Smith LLP, Statutory Auditor

9 Appold Street
London
EC2A 2AP

Moore Kingston Smith LLP is eligible to act as auditor in terms of Section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	4	685,697	6,622,964	7,308,661	2,381,425
Central fundraising	5	19,364,266	-	19,364,266	12,845,219
Branch fundraising	6	226,564	-	226,564	231,608
Investment Income	7	383,024	24,022	407,046	392,712
Other Income – gross gain on sale of property		-	-	-	-
Total Income		20,659,551	6,646,986	27,306,537	15,850,964
Expenditure on:					
Cost of raising funds					
Central fundraising	5	13,765,600	-	13,765,600	8,944,935
Branch fundraising	6	75,164	-	75,164	73,084
Charitable activities					
Grants	8	4,443,958	1,263,732	5,707,690	4,582,743
Goods and services	8	2,534,539	209,341	2,743,880	2,121,220
Other Expenses	10	-	-	-	6,305
Total Expenditure before investments		20,819,261	1,473,073	22,292,334	15,728,287
Net gains/(losses) on investments	15	58,898	(311,012)	(252,114)	521,593
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds		(100,812)	4,862,901	4,762,089	644,271
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward from previous year		12,868,952	349,715	13,218,667	12,574,396
Total funds carried forward		12,768,140	5,212,616	17,980,756	13,218,667

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the period. All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

The notes on pages 23-40 form part of these financial statements.

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID**CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET
AT 31ST MARCH 2025**

		Group		Charity	
	Notes	2025	2024	2025	2024
		£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets					
Tangible assets	13	1,400,427	1,373,917	1,400,427	1,373,917
Intangible assets	14	345,769	97,440	345,769	97,440
Investments	15	16,034,947	10,402,854	16,044,947	10,412,854
Total fixed assets		17,781,143	11,874,211	17,791,143	11,884,211
Current Assets					
Debtors	16	9,851,918	9,230,670	597,230	1,597,192
Cash at bank and in hand	17	4,503,149	4,208,881	1,763,593	2,292,878
Total current assets		14,355,067	13,439,551	2,360,823	3,890,070
CREDITORS:	18	(14,155,454)	(12,095,094)	(8,740,954)	(7,204,023)
Amounts falling due within one year					
NET CURRENT ASSETS		199,613	1,344,457	(6,380,131)	(3,313,953)
NET ASSETS		17,980,756	13,218,667	11,411,012	8,570,258
FUNDS					
Unrestricted income fund	20	12,768,140	12,868,952	6,198,396	8,220,543
Designated fund	20	-	-	-	-
Restricted income fund	20	5,212,616	349,715	5,212,616	349,715
TOTAL FUNDS		17,980,756	13,218,667	11,411,012	8,570,258

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on the 20 October 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

DocuSigned by:

-----A2263EC0C7654BD-----

Ruston Smith, Chair, GroceryAid Trustees

Signed by:

-----8FE9AB186D3447E-----

Alison Cheung, Treasurer GroceryAid

Charity Number 1095897
Company Number: 04620683

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID**CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025**

		2025		2024	
	Note	£	£	£	£
NET CASH (USED IN)/PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES	23		6,148,639		(680,364)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES					
Dividends, Interest and Rents for Investment		407,046		392,712	
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(97,062)		(1,422)	
Purchase of intangible assets		(280,147)		(73,213)	
Proceeds from the sale of investments		-		-	
Purchase of investments		(5,884,208)		(298,207)	
Net cash provided by investing activities			(5,854,371)		(19,870)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period			294,268		(660,494)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period			4,208,881		4,869,375
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	24		4,503,149		4,208,881

1. Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies of the charity are as follows:

a) General information

The charity is a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is 2 Lakeside Business Park, Swan Lane, Sandhurst, Berkshire, GU47 9DN.

b) Statement of compliance and basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), and the Companies Act 2006.

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, except for investments which are included at fair value.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102 and has taken regard of the charity commissions guidance on public benefit, including 'Public Benefit: running a charity (PB2).

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity, and are rounded to the nearest £.

c) Going Concern

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis which assumes that the company will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

The Trustees have considered possible events and conditions that might cast significant doubt on the ability of the Charity to continue as a going concern. A number of scenarios have been modelled based on different income and demand assumptions. Based on the results of these models and the level of reserves, the Trustees are satisfied that GroceryAid, the charitable company, will be able to continue its operations and meet its liabilities as they fall due for at least twelve months from the date of approval of the financial statements. The charitable company therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

d) Method of consolidation

The financial statements consolidate the results and position of the subsidiary undertaking (see note 3) and all of the Charity's branches on a line-by-line basis in both the Statement of Financial Activities (including income and expenditure account) and the Balance Sheet.

e) Incoming resources

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement, it is probable that the amount will be received, and it can be measured reliably as follows:

Voluntary income

Income from donations is accounted for on a receipt.

Grant income

Grants are recognised when any conditions for entitlement are met. Grants received before the conditions for entitlement have been met are deferred and included in creditors at the year end.

Legacies

Income from legacies is accounted for on a receivable basis being included at the earliest of the date of receipt or at the point which notification is received, provided that there is sufficient evidence to provide the necessary probability that the legacy will be received.

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2025

Central and branch fundraising

Income from fundraising is accounted for on a receivable basis. Income associated with a particular event is reported only upon that event having taken place, with income received in advance of events being treated as deferred income.

Investment income

Income from investments is accounted for on a receivable basis.

Gifts in Kind and Donated Services

Items donated to the charity to assist with particular fundraising events are recognised in the financial statements at market value as income to and resources expended against the respective activities. The donation of services to the charity is similarly recognised within the financial statements by the inclusion of a charge to expenditure and a corresponding credit to income, based on the estimated market value.

f) **Resources expended**

Resources expended are accounted for on an accruals basis. The inclusion of costs within the various categories of expenditure was made on the following basis:

Costs of raising funds

This category is used to record any costs which are associated with the cost of raising funds from whatever source and will include costs incurred in attracting donations and sponsorship.

Investment management fees

The cost of managing the Charity's investment funds is not charged separately by the investment managers but is instead effectively recovered by way of a deduction from the funds.

Charitable activities

This category is used to record expenditure incurred in fulfilling the Charity's objectives: it includes the payment of monetary grants to beneficiaries, expenditure made in providing beneficiaries with goods and services, and the costs of distributing and administering such direct charitable provision. The cost of such provision, and that in respect of monetary grants in particular, is recognised when award of the grant has been communicated to the beneficiary. Grants are awarded on an annual basis and are subject to annual review.

Governance

This category comprises costs incurred in the general management of the Charity, as distinct from that concerned directly with the conduct of the Charity's operational activities, and includes those costs associated with ensuring that the Charity complies with applicable laws and regulations, to include the preparation of information required for public accountability.

Allocation and apportionment of costs

Expenditure is classified according to the above headings that aggregate all costs related to those categories, whether they be directly attributable or apportioned as such. The bases of the apportionment of costs are consistent with the use of the staff resources under each heading.

g) **Creditors**

Creditors are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

h) **Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported for assets and liabilities as at the balance sheet date and the amounts reported for income and expenditure during the year. However, the nature of estimation means that actual outcomes could differ from those estimates.

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2025

The key assumptions involving estimation uncertainty at the balance sheet date that have a risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets or liabilities within the next financial year are as follows:

Useful life of Tangible and Intangible fixed assets

Both Tangible and Intangible fixed assets are depreciated over their useful lives. The actual lives of the asset and residual values are assessed annually and may vary depending on a number of factors. The useful life is set depending upon asset class. The Trustees believe this is an appropriate methodology for valuing these fixed assets.

i) **Tangible fixed assets**

Tangible fixed assets are depreciated over their useful lives taking into account residual values, where appropriate. The actual lives of the asset and residual values are assessed annually and may vary depending on a number of factors. Residual value assessments consider issues such as the remaining life of the asset and projected disposal values.

All assets costing over £1,000 are capitalised subject to considerations as to the likely useful life of each item. Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost. Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets over their estimated useful lives by equal annual instalments at the following rates:

Improvements to freehold	2% per annum
Freehold buildings	1% per annum
Office equipment	20% per annum
Furniture fixtures and fittings	10% per annum

No depreciation is provided on freehold land.

j) **Intangible assets**

All assets costing over £1,000 are capitalised subject to considerations as to the likely useful life of each item. Intangible fixed assets are stated at cost. Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets over their estimated useful lives by equal annual instalments at the following rates:

Software	20% per annum
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k) **Financial instruments**

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the transaction price, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where it is recognised at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Current assets and current liabilities are measured at the cash or consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

l) **Investments**

Investments are a form of basic financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value as at the balance sheet date using the bid price. Gains and losses on the disposal and revaluation of investments are charged or credited to the Statement of Financial Activities. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their opening carrying value or their purchase value if acquired subsequent to the first day of the financial year. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and their carrying value. Realised and unrealised

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2025

investment gains and losses are combined in the statement of financial activities. The charity does not acquire put options, derivatives or other complex financial instruments.

m) **Fund accounting**

Funds held by the charity as unrestricted funds are free for the Trustees to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charitable objects as set out in the Charity's Reserves policy. Designated funds are those that have been set aside by Trustees for specific purposes. Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions imposed by the donors. At the year end, any restricted fund deficits can be eliminated by a transfer from unrestricted funds unless the Trustees are of the opinion that such deficits will be eliminated by future giving. There are no transfers out of restricted fund unless approval is given by the donors.

n) **Pension costs**

Pension contributions are charged in the financial statements as they become payable.

o) **Publicity**

Costs associated with the objective of raising awareness of the Charity and its profile, particularly within the grocery trade, are included under this sub-heading within Central Fundraising. This policy was adopted on the basis that increasing awareness of the Charity, particularly within the grocery industry, should enhance its relevance and influence and so, in turn, better enable it to raise funds through its various activities.

p) **Irrecoverable VAT**

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources expended for which it was incurred.

q) **Cash & Cash Equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

2. Results of the parent undertaking

The gross income and result of the parent charity excluding those of its subsidiary were as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Gross income	16,288,128	9,419,249
Net movement in funds	2,840,775	(1,172,968)

3. Subsidiary undertaking

The charity has a wholly owned trading subsidiary, GroceryAid Trading Limited, by virtue of the ownership of that company's entire share capital of 10,000 ordinary £1 shares, to which all voting rights are attached. The subsidiary is incorporated in the U.K., company registration number 02952403. GroceryAid Trading Limited may be used to operate certain activities that might be regarded as trading. The Trading Company's registered office is 2 Lakeside Business Park, Swan Lane, Sandhurst, GU47 9DN. The subsidiary donates its taxable profit to the National Grocers Benevolent Fund under the Gift Aid scheme. A summary of its trading results for the year to 31st March 2025 is shown below and accounts will be filed with the Registrar of Companies.

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2025

Profit and Loss Account – Summary	2025	2024
	£	£
Turnover	17,251,413	11,404,809
Net Profit/(Loss) and Retained Reserves	6,473,577	4,529,493

The subsidiary's net assets were comprised as follows:

Debtors	15,971,170	13,141,958
Cash at Bank	2,739,556	1,916,002
Creditors	(12,130,984)	(10,399,550)
Net Assets/(Liabilities)	6,579,742	4,658,410

4. Voluntary Income – Donations and Legacies

	2025	2024
	£	£
Donations – unrestricted	685,697	1,557,544
Voluntary Income – restricted:		
Grant from Leverhulme Trade Charities Trust	1,000,000	466,666
Funds for retailer hardship fund	5,622,964	357,215
TOTAL	7,308,661	2,381,425

During the year, the Assets relating to the Tobacco Charity were transferred to National Grocer's Benevolent Fund. The total amount transferred was £5.6m, which comprise solely of restricted funds.

In accordance with FRS 102 and the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the economic contribution of general volunteers is not recognised in the accounts.

5. Fundraising – all Unrestricted

Central fundraising		2025	
	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Surplus</u>
Central fundraising - unrestricted	18,261,119	(9,408,923)	8,852,196
Allocated support costs	-	(2,756,624)	(2,756,624)
PR Marketing	-	(496,906)	(496,906)
Total current central fundraising	18,261,119	(12,662,453)	5,598,666
Gifts in Kind	1,103,147	(1,103,147)	-
Total	19,364,266	(13,765,600)	5,598,666

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2025

Central fundraising	2024		
	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Surplus</u>
Central fundraising - unrestricted	12,316,226	(6,037,883)	6,278,343
Allocated support costs	-	(2,240,427)	(2,240,427)
PR Marketing	-	(137,632)	(137,632)
Total current central fundraising	12,316,226	(8,415,942)	3,900,284
Gifts in Kind	528,993	(528,993)	-
Total	12,845,219	(8,944,935)	3,900,284

PR Marketing costs includes the estimated value of discounted advertisements placed in various trade publications of £33,026 (2024: £16,300) and related development work. This support is to help raise the awareness of the work of the charity and its fundraising efforts.

6. Branch fundraising

		2025		2024
		<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Surplus</u>
		£	£	£
Total	Branch			
Fundraising		226,564	(75,164)	151,400
				158,524

Gifts in Kind are included in the individual branch fundraising income and expenses above amounting to £nil in total (2024: £nil)

7. Investment income

	2025			2024
	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>	<u>Restricted Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
	£	£	£	£
Dividend and other investment income	315,495	24,022	339,517	306,264
Bank deposit interest receivable	67,529	-	67,529	86,448
Other investment income	-	-	-	-
Total Investment Income	383,024	24,022	407,046	392,712

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2025

8. Charitable expenditure

2025

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
Monetary Grants	3,153,505	1,263,732	4,417,237
Provision of goods and services	1,981,488	209,341	2,190,829
Allocated support costs	1,843,504	-	1,843,504
Total	6,978,497	1,473,073	8,451,570

2024

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
Monetary Grants	3,135,881	364,438	3,500,319
Provision of goods and services	1,547,595	109,728	1,657,323
Allocated support costs	1,546,321	-	1,546,321
Total	6,229,797	474,166	6,703,963

The grants paid to individuals are to relieve financial hardship in accordance with the objects of the Charity. The provision of goods and services includes one-off crisis payments, provision of basic essentials, helpline facilities, respite and other goods and services in furtherance of the charity's objects.

9. Governance costs

	2025 £	2024 £
Audit – Current year	33,163	36,308
Audit – Relating to Prior year	-	-
Meetings	-	77
Legal advice	-	77,565
Other Services (including payroll, VAT & Tax)	-	30
Trustees' expenses	-	-
Trustees' indemnity insurance	-	5,911
	33,163	119,891

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2025

10. Other Expenses

	2025	2024
	£	£
Legal advice	-	-
Release of other creditor	-	-
Prior year	-	6,305
	-	6,305

11. Support Costs

2025	Central Fundraising	Charitable Activities	Governance	Total
	£	£	£	£
Staff related costs	2,179,586	1,026,958	310,618	3,517,162
Direct costs (note 9)	-	-	33,163	33,163
Overheads	994,769	422,863	49,902	1,467,534
Governance costs	-	393,683	(393,683)	-
Total allocation	3,174,355	1,843,504	-	5,017,859

2024	Central Fundraising	Charitable Activities	Governance	Total
	£	£	£	£
Staff related costs	1,855,808	883,886	272,747	3,012,441
Direct costs (note 9)	-	-	119,891	119,891
Overheads	488,021	227,779	42,018	757,818
Governance costs	-	434,656	(434,656)	-
Total allocation	2,343,829	1,546,321	-	3,890,150

The costs shown above are not specific to any one activity and have been allocated on the basis of a judgement as to the proportion of time spent on each of the activities.

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2025

12. Staff costs

	2025	2024
	£	£
Salaries	2,599,778	2,256,834
Termination payments	-	-
Temp Staff	81,632	40,395
Employer's National Insurance	289,820	248,913
Pension contributions	337,428	276,357
Health insurance	39,185	29,220
	3,347,843	2,851,719

The average monthly head count was 57 staff (2024: 53 Staff) and the average monthly number of employees (including casual and part-time staff) during the year was as follows:

	2025	2024
Charitable welfare	19.7	18.7
Fundraising	34.3	30.9
Governance	3.3	3.1
Average Headcount	57.3	52.7

10 out of the total of 57 employees at the year-end are part-time (2024: 8 out of 53 employees). There were 10 employees (2024: 9 employees) with emoluments above £60,000 per annum.

The number of senior post holders and other staff who receive emoluments, excluding pension contributions but including benefits in kind, in the following ranges were:

	2025	2024
£60,000 to £69,999	3	3
£70,000 to £79,999	2	3
£80,000 to £89,999	1	-
£90,000 to £99,999	-	1
£100,000 to £109,999	-	1
£110,000 to £119,999	2	1
£120,000 to £129,999	1	-
£130,000+	1	-

- (i) The pension arrangements operated by the charity are for all members of staff and provide benefits on a defined contribution basis. Contributions paid in accordance with the rules of the scheme are charged to the statement of financial activities as they become payable. The cost for the year was £337,428 (2024: £276,357) and there were no outstanding or prepaid contributions at the balance sheet date.
- (ii) The charity holds an investment bond, valued in the accounts at £481 (2024: £436), which is used to supplement the pension of a former Director General.

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2025

- (iii) Funds belonging to the Charity have been used for the purchase of insurance to indemnify the Trustees against the consequences of any neglect or default on their part. The cost recognised for the year in providing that insurance was £5,843 (2024: £5,911).
- (iv) The key management personnel of the charity comprise the Trustees, Chief Executive, Fundraising Director, Welfare Director, Marketing Director, IT Director, Head of HR and Finance Director & Company Secretary. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £611,226 (2024: £550,460).
- (v) During the period, no termination payments were made (2024: no termination payments were made)
- (vi) During the period, no trustees received any remuneration, nor did they receive any expenses (2024: £nil)

13. Tangible assets

	Freehold land and buildings	Office Equipment	Furniture, fixtures and fittings	Total
	£	£	£	£
<u>Cost:</u>				
Brought forward	1,555,018	106,240	32,913	1,694,171
Additions	-	5,194	91,868	97,062
Disposals	-	(4,032)	(666)	(4,698)
Carried forward	1,555,018	107,402	124,115	1,786,535
<u>Depreciation</u>				
Brought forward	243,922	64,270	12,062	320,254
Charge for year	49,428	16,781	4,023	70,232
Disposals	-	(3,712)	(666)	(4,378)
Carried forward	293,350	77,339	15,419	386,108
Net book value carried forward	1,261,668	30,063	108,696	1,400,427
Net book value brought forward	1,311,096	41,970	20,851	1,373,917

All of the Charity group's fixed assets were held for functional charity use and all assets are used in the running and administration of the Charity.

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2025

14. Intangible assets

	Website £	Software £	Total £
<u>Cost:</u>			
Brought forward	45,376	138,693	184,069
Additions	-	280,147	280,147
Disposals	-	(17,749)	(17,749)
Carried forward	45,376	401,091	446,467
<u>Depreciation</u>			
Brought forward	30,861	55,768	86,629
Charge for year	9,075	22,742	31,817
Disposals	-	(17,748)	(17,748)
Carried forward	39,936	60,762	100,698
Net book value carried forward	5,440	340,329	345,769
Net book value brought forward	14,515	82,925	97,440

15. Investments

	Group		Charity	
	2025	2024	2025	2024
<u>Analysis of Movement of Investments</u>				
Market value at beginning of year	10,412,854	9,593,054	10,412,854	9,593,054
Additions to investments at cost	5,884,207	298,207	5,884,207	298,207
Disposals at market value	-	-	-	-
Net gain/(loss) on revaluation	(252,114)	521,593	(252,114)	521,593
Market value at end of year	16,044,947	10,412,854	16,044,947	10,412,854
<u>Investments held</u>				
Listed investments	16,034,947	10,402,854	16,034,947	10,402,854
Investments in subsidiary undertakings	-	-	10,000	10,000
Total investments held	16,034,947	10,402,854	16,044,947	10,412,854

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2025

Unrestricted fund investments consist of a portfolio of listed investments managed on the charity's behalf by professional fund managers. The following investments make up more than 5% of the total investment portfolio:

	% of total	Market Value
BNY Mellon Global Income Fund Newton Inst Shares 1	12%	£1,879,003
Newton Growth and Income Fund for Charities Inc Class	21%	£3,319,349
Rathbones Core Investment Fund for Charities	26%	£4,107,721
CCLA COIF Charities Property Fund	9%	£1,459,896
Quilter Cheviot	33%	£5,266,076

16. Debtors

	Group		Charity	
	2025	2024	2025	2024
Current:				
Trade debtors	6,409,057	6,336,642	252,135	1,289,196
Amounts due from subsidiary undertaking			-	-
Other debtors	3,097,766	2,587,532	-	1,500
Prepayments	182,279	172,428	182,279	172,428
Accrued income	162,816	134,068	162,816	134,068
	9,851,918	9,230,670	597,230	1,597,192
Loans receivable secured on property	-	-	-	-
	9,851,918	9,230,670	597,230	1,597,192

17. Cash at bank and in hand

	Group		Charity	
	2025	2024	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
Head office bank current account	1,761,653	2,289,275	1,761,653	2,289,275
Head office deposit accounts	196	195	196	195
Trading Co bank account	2,739,556	1,916,002	-	-
Branch bank accounts *	1,744	3,409	1,744	3,408
	4,503,149	4,208,881	1,763,593	2,292,878

*Deposit account in Northern Ireland only.

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2025

18. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Group		Charity	
	2025	2024	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
Trade creditors	(2,091,649)	(1,032,234)	(507,615)	(228,265)
Other creditors	(10,788,946)	(9,885,051)	(1,009,499)	(699,628)
Accruals	(145,136)	(113,572)	(71,108)	(84,011)
Deferred income	(1,129,723)	(1,064,238)	(436,250)	(683,640)
Amounts due to subsidiary undertaking	-	-	(6,716,482)	(5,508,479)
	(14,155,454)	(12,095,095)	(8,740,954)	(7,204,023)

Movement on deferred income balances was as follows:

Balance brought forward	(1,064,238)	(1,360,619)	(683,640)	(881,400)
Released to statement of financial activities	1,064,238	1,360,619	683,640	881,400
Fund raising proceeds received	(1,129,723)	(1,064,238)	(436,250)	(683,640)
Balance carried forward	(1,129,723)	(1,064,238)	(436,250)	(683,640)

19. Commitments under operating lease

	2025	2024
	£	£
Office equipment		
Amounts to be paid		
Within 1 year	5,682	7,072
Between 2 - 5 Years	2,720	8,402
Over 5 Years	-	-
	8,402	15,474

Operating lease costs in the year ending 31st March 2025, were £5,766. (2024: £4,451)

20. Funds

At the balance sheet date restricted funds were represented by current assets with the balance of the Charity's assets and liabilities were representing the unrestricted funds.

The Restricted Funds comprise:

- 1) The Leverhulme Trade Charities Trust grant received during the year, which can only be used for certain categories of our beneficiaries. As at the end of FY24, there were no unspent funds.
- 2) Unspent funds from a retailer for a fund administered by the charity for those in the industry impacted by breast cancer.
- 3) In February 2024, the charity received £5.6m from the Tobacco Trade Charity in order for the charity to take on responsibility for annual payments to their beneficiaries (£5.3m) and supporting anyone working in the Tobacco Industry with the provision of one-off grants (£0.3m).

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2025

GROUP	Brought forward	Income	Expenditure	Gains/ (losses)	Transfers	Carried forward
Year to 31 March 2025						
General funds						
Unrestricted fund	12,868,952	20,659,551	(20,819,261)	58,898	-	12,768,140
Total general funds	12,868,952	20,659,551	(20,819,261)	58,898	-	12,768,140
Restricted funds						
Leverhulme Trade Charities Trust	-	1,000,000	(1,000,000)	-	-	-
Breast Cancer Fund	349,715	-	(80,000)	-	-	269,715
Tobacco Charity Fund	-	5,646,986	(393,073)	(311,012)	-	4,942,901
Total restricted funds	349,715	6,646,986	(1,473,073)	(311,012)	-	5,212,616
Total funds	13,218,667	27,306,537	(22,292,334)	(252,114)	-	17,980,756

	Brought forward	Income	Expenditure	Gains/ (losses)	Transfers	Carried forward
CHARITY						
Year to 31 March 2025						
General funds						
Unrestricted fund	8,220,543	9,641,142	(11,722,187)	58,898	-	6,198,396
Total general funds	8,220,543	9,641,142	(11,722,187)	58,898	-	6,198,396
Restricted funds						
Leverhulme Trade Charities Trust	-	1,000,000	(1,000,000)	-	-	-
Breast Cancer Fund	349,715	-	(80,000)	-	-	269,715
Tobacco Charity Fund	-	5,646,986	(393,073)	(311,012)	-	4,942,901
Total restricted funds	349,715	6,646,986	(1,473,073)	(311,012)	-	5,212,616
Total funds	8,570,258	16,288,128	(13,195,260)	(252,114)	-	11,411,012

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2025

GROUP	Brought forward	Income	Expenditure	Gains/ (losses)	Transfers	Carried forward
Year to 31 March 2024						
General funds						
Unrestricted fund	12,574,396	15,027,083	(15,254,120)	521,593	-	12,868,952
Total general funds	12,574,396	15,027,083	(15,254,120)	521,593	-	12,868,952
Restricted funds						
Leverhulme Trade Charities Trust	-	466,666	(466,666)	-	-	-
Breast Cancer Fund	-	357,215	(7,500)	-	-	349,715
Total restricted funds	-	823,881	(474,166)	-	-	349,715
Total funds	12,574,396	15,850,964	(15,728,286)	521,593	-	13,218,667

21. Net assets

2025 Consolidated Group	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	1,400,427	-	1,400,427
Intangible fixed assets	345,769	-	345,769
Investments	11,092,045	4,942,902	16,034,947
Current assets	14,085,353	269,714	14,355,067
Current liabilities	(14,155,454)	-	(14,155,454)
Total	12,768,140	5,212,616	17,980,756

2025 Charity	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	1,400,427	-	1,400,427
Intangible fixed assets	345,769	-	345,769
Investments	11,102,045	4,942,902	16,044,947
Current assets	2,091,109	269,714	2,360,823
Current liabilities	(8,740,954)	-	(8,740,954)
Total	6,198,396	5,212,616	11,411,012

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2025

2024 Consolidated Group	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	1,373,917	-	1,373,917
Intangible fixed assets	97,440	-	97,440
Investments	10,402,854	-	10,402,854
Current assets	13,089,836	349,715	13,439,551
Current liabilities	(12,095,095)	-	(12,095,095)
Total	12,868,952	349,715	13,218,667

2024 Charity	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	1,373,917	-	1,373,917
Intangible fixed assets	97,440	-	97,440
Investments	10,412,854	-	10,412,854
Current assets	3,540,355	349,715	3,890,070
Current liabilities	(7,204,023)	-	(7,204,023)
Total	8,220,543	349,715	8,570,258

22. Legal status of the Charity

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of a winding up is limited to £1.

23. Reconciliation of Net Incoming Resources to Net Cash (Outflow)/Inflow from Operating Activities

	2025	2024
	£	£
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period	4,762,088	644,270
Income from investments	(339,517)	(306,264)
Interest receivable	(67,529)	(86,448)
(Gains)/losses on investments	252,114	(521,593)
Depreciation	70,232	72,888
Amortisation	31,818	13,855
Loss (Profit) on sale of fixed assets	320	513
(Increase)/Decrease in debtors	(621,247)	(3,132,263)
Increase/(Decrease) in creditors	2,060,360	2,634,678
Net cash (outflow)/inflow from operating activities	6,148,639	(680,363)

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2025

24. Reconciliation of Net cash Flow Movement in Net Funds

	2025	2024
	£	£
Increase/(decrease) in cash in the period	294,268	(660,494)
Change in net funds	294,268	(660,494)
Net funds at 1 April	4,208,881	4,869,375
Net funds at 31 March	4,503,149	4,208,881

25. Analysis of changes in Net Funds

	1-Apr-2024	Cash flows	31-Mar-2025
	£	£	£
Cash at bank	4,208,881	294,268	4,503,149

26. Related party transactions

During the year ending 31st March 2025, there were no related party transactions (2024: nil).

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2025

27. Parent company Statement of Financial Activity

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£
Income from:				
Donations and legacies	5,237,941	6,622,964	11,860,905	6,152,418
Central fundraising	3,793,612	-	3,793,612	2,642,511
Branch fundraising	226,565	-	226,565	231,608
Investment Income	383,024	24,022	407,046	392,712
		-		
Total Income	9,641,142	6,646,986	16,288,128	9,419,249
Expenditure on:				
Cost of generating funds				
Central fundraising	4,668,525	-	4,668,525	3,271,722
Branch fundraising	75,164	-	75,164	73,084
Charitable activities				
Grants	4,443,958	1,263,732	5,707,690	4,582,743
Goods and services	2,534,539	209,341	2,743,880	2,121,220
Other Expenses	-	-	-	6,303
Total Expenditure	11,722,186	1,473,073	13,195,259	10,055,072
Net gains/(losses) on investments	58,898	(311,012)	(252,114)	521,593
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds	(2,022,146)	4,862,901	2,840,755	(114,230)
Reconciliation of funds:				
Total funds brought forward from previous year	8,220,542	349,715	8,570,257	8,684,487
Total funds carried forward	6,198,396	5,212,616	11,411,012	8,570,257

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND

England & Wales - Charity number 1095897

Accounts

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID

**A Company Limited by Guarantee
Registered Charity**

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31st MARCH 2024

**Registered Charity Number 1095897 (England & Wales) SC039255 (Scotland)
Company Registered in England and Wales Number 04620683**

Registered Office and Principal Address:

**2 Lakeside Business Park,
Swan Lane,
Sandhurst, Berkshire
GU47 9DN**

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024

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LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Directors and Trustees

The directors of the charitable company ("the Charity") are its Trustees for the purposes of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the Trustees. An explanation of the method of appointment of Trustees is provided in the Trustees' Report.

The Trustees serving during the year and at the time the accounts were signed were:

R H Bartlett	
B W Dalla Mura	
L D Hendle	
M McKenzie	
H E Murray	
D Pervez	
M P Smith	
R A M Smith	Chair
L A Stigant	
H M Tatum	
H M Tucker	
J C Uttley	
D C Wheeler	Treasurer
M R Williamson	(Resigned 26 th February 2023, Re-appointed 6 th September 2023)

Life Patrons	Lord Price CVO; Mike Coupe; Paul Monk
President	Allan Leighton
Chief Executive	Steve Barnes (Resigned 17 th March 2023), Mark Williamson (Appointed as interim CEO on 17 th March 2023, resigned 1 st September 2023) Kieran Hemsworth (Appointed 4 th September 2023)
Company Secretary	Catherine Robinson-McCormick
Registered Office	2 Lakeside Business Park, Swan Lane, Sandhurst, Berkshire GU47 9DN
Website	www.groceryaid.org.uk
Email	info@groceryaid.org.uk
Independent Auditors	Moore Kingston Smith LLP, 9 Appold Street, London, EC2A 2AP
Bankers	Lloyds Bank, 24 Broad Street, Reading, Berkshire, RG1 2BT
Investment providers	CCLA Investment Management Limited, London Newton Investment Management Limited, London Rathbone Brothers Plc, London

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

CHAIR'S STATEMENT

The demand for GroceryAid's welfare services has risen dramatically in the year ending 31st March 2024, the total incidences of support has risen from 41,000 in the previous year to over 78,000 in the latest year, a staggering growth rate of 93%.

We have seen growth across all our welfare services, covering financial, emotional and practical support, however the support provided to help industry colleagues through the cost of living crisis has driven the growth in demand.

In our survey last December, 57% of grocery workers said that help with the cost of living would have a positive impact on their household, and this rose to 66% amongst workers paid under £20,000 a year.

To satisfy this growth in demand, GroceryAid spent over £6m on welfare support, which was £1m more than the previous year. GroceryAid, thanks to the generosity of its supporters, are always ready to support and care for grocery colleagues and their families through difficult times.

Supporting Industry Colleagues

In the year ending 31st March 2024, GroceryAid have experienced a dramatic increase in the demand for all its welfare services.

GroceryAid Grants Officers have dealt with a 57% increase in colleagues receiving a non-repayable financial grant. More than 22,000 colleagues have visited our cost-of-living web page and over 17,000 colleagues have used our MoneyHelper financial wellbeing hub.

Our School Essentials Grant, supported by the Leverhulme Trade Charities Trust, ran for the fourth year in June last year. Over 5,900 children have benefited from a £150 grant, helping families ensure their children started the new academic year with new school uniform and equipment.

Over last year there has also been a 22% increase in calls to our Helpline, which included a 11% increase of 'in the moment' counselling sessions with a qualified mental health counsellor and a 27% increase in calls to our Telephone Information Specialists, who provide practical advice.

GroceryAid is constantly reviewing its welfare offer to ensure we meet the changing needs of grocery colleagues. As part of our 'listen and learn' approach we work with senior industry colleagues as part of the Welfare Strategy Group and last year we conducted an in-depth study with grocery colleagues to remain close to the latest trends and will continue running this survey annually.

We expect the demand for our welfare services to continue to grow throughout 2024 and 2025, as industry colleagues continue to be impacted by economic pressures.

Raising Awareness

Raising awareness is a key priority for GroceryAid. In our recent survey of grocery colleagues only 18% said they have heard of the Charity; we therefore need to improve awareness and recognition to ensure that all grocery workers who find themselves requiring our help know that they can turn to us for free and confidential support. The Charity focusses on different activities, such as social media, digital communications and the use of channels owned by our supporters to raise awareness.

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID

GroceryAid Day, held last year on the 10th of May, was the day the industry came together to raise awareness of the Charity's welfare services, just under 300 companies took part, organising events, posting on social media and placing over 30,000 pieces of printed material.

In addition, the Charity also has a number of programmes with the objective of raising awareness and educating. The GroceryAid Network programme brings together future industry leaders to help raise awareness in their organisations. The programme continues to grow, last year the number of companies taking part has increased from 70 to 134. The GroceryAid Engage programme is a community of HR and Communications professionals, who join a webinar to discuss the latest welfare developments and marketing initiatives. Over the last year the number of companies taking part in this initiative has increased from 142 to 172.

We have a real challenge to raise awareness but, with our supporters, we continue to make a difference so that we can support more of our industry colleagues who need us.

Fundraising

Our fundraising income is important because, as we raise more, we can provide greater support to even more of our colleagues in need.

Our fundraising income continues to grow as we increase the number of events, increase the number of supporters, and offer more opportunities for companies to activate their brands. Over the last year, 15,700 industry colleagues have attended our events.

For the first time, four of our events raised over £1m in contribution; Barcode, Sporting Lunch, Asda's Tickled Pink Gala Ball and Sainsbury's Big Bash. We were delighted to have been chosen to continue to manage the Waitrose Garden Party for the next 3 years. We have also been appointed to manage three new events: Morrison's Big Night Out, the Booker Dragon Boat Race and the Charity Leadership Dinner.

The only way we can satisfy the increase in demand for our welfare services is through the tremendous support we get from companies across the grocery industry. Last year we have worked with over 500 companies, and we are delighted that 440 companies have been recognised with a GroceryAid Award.

The Diversity & Inclusion in Grocery Programme (D&I), which is managed by GroceryAid, has a vision to accelerate a truly diverse and inclusive grocery industry. The programme helps connect partners to accelerate their D&I journeys through 12 month mentoring sessions, monthly learning labs and an interactive hub. Last year the programme has continued to show impressive growth with the number of partners increasing from 77 to 91, and over 1,300 industry colleagues attending our live event. The Programme has also launched a maturity model, which enables partners and the industry to measure their progress on their D&I journey.

Our People

After an organisational health check, the Charity placed greater emphasis on making GroceryAid an even better place to work for its employees. As part of this review, Alicia Oughton has been recruited as Head of HR and sits as part of the Senior Leadership Team. During last year the Charity continued to invest in strengthening the team, with additional recruitment to support the increase in events, and additional recruitment to support the growth in demand for our welfare services.

Trustee Board

During the year there were no changes to the Trustee Board. Over the next three years, however several Trustees will come to an end of their term, and we would welcome those with the skills and experience we require, to put themselves forward for those vacancies. I would like to thank the Trustees for their help and support over the last year, their diligence and commitment to the Charity is truly appreciated.

I am incredibly proud of the GroceryAid team, along with our wonderful group of volunteers, who relentlessly focus on improving the lives of grocery colleagues and their families. I am also continually humbled by the amazing feedback we receive from our beneficiaries.

As we increase the level of awareness and reach more families in the sector who are in need, we will need to raise the amount we spend on our welfare services. We are only able to satisfy this growth in demand due to the support of companies across the industry. I would like to, once again, thank all our supporters for their tremendous, continued generosity.



Ruston Smith
Chair of GroceryAid Trustees

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The National Grocers Benevolent Fund, trading as GroceryAid, is a registered charity in England and Wales (registration number 1095897) and Scotland (registration number SC039255) and is constituted as a company limited by guarantee (registration number 04620683). Its governing document is its memorandum and articles of association.

The Charity is run by 14 serving Trustees who are also directors and members of the limited company. In that capacity the Trustees select new members of the Board of Trustees.

Trustees are responsible for compliance with our legal and statutory requirements and the safe and effective running of the charity. They meet every quarter to discuss and review both the day-to-day operations and the strategic direction of the charity. In addition, the Trustees also meet on an ad hoc basis when required.

The Trustees **appoint the** Chief Executive **who** manages the day-to-day operations of the Charity and reports to the quarterly Trustee meetings and contributes to the discussions in an advisory capacity. The senior direct reports are Mandi Leonard, Welfare Director, Jane Hill, Fundraising Director and Catherine Robinson-McCormick, Finance Director.

Remuneration for key management personnel is determined by a sub-committee of the Trustee Board - the Remuneration Committee. This committee has specific delegated responsibilities to:

- Set the remuneration policy for directors (salary, pension and benefits) in line with the approach taken for GroceryAid's employees
 - Determine salary levels for directors considering:
 - Individual directors' capabilities and contribution
 - Salary levels for comparable roles in organisation identified as suitable benchmarks;
 - Salary levels across GroceryAid; and
 - Overall appropriateness given charitable purpose, stakeholder perception and affordability.
- Be kept informed by the Chief Executive of any significant changes in the remuneration arrangements for GroceryAid's employees.
- The objectives of our senior remuneration policy are:
- To be able recruit and retain individuals who will lead the successful delivery of our mission, and
- To reward them fairly by taking account of their contribution, market levels and experience within GroceryAid.

The Remuneration Committee meets at least twice annually and is chaired by Hayley Tatum.

Various Trustees and industry colleagues sit on one or more of our six sub-committees covering welfare, welfare strategy, finance, fundraising, remuneration and recruitment. These committees consider each of their areas in depth and report to the Trustee Board on key developments, risks, plans and initiatives. These committees each have formal Terms of Reference and these are set out in the GroceryAid Policy Document, which is reviewed and updated annually. This document also contains various processes and procedures to ensure that we have appropriate controls in place for the effective and efficient operation of the charity.

From 2018, it was agreed that Trustees can serve for a three-year period and may be re-elected to serve for two further three-year periods i.e. a total of three terms. All GroceryAid Trustees have

signed an 'Eligibility to Serve' declaration form, and a Declaration of Interest and Connected Persons form. The possible existence of conflicts of interest is considered prior to the start of every meeting of the Board of Trustees. The Declaration of Interest and Connected Persons forms are completed annually and are held on file at the GroceryAid offices.

All nominations are approved by the Board of Trustees. All new Trustees have a formal induction that covers the role of the Charity and what is expected of them in their role as GroceryAid Trustees. Governance requirements of both Trustees and Senior Management are incorporated into the GroceryAid Policy Manual which forms part of ongoing training and updates at Trustee meetings.

No Trustees are paid by the Charity for their services.

Charity law requires organisations to demonstrate explicitly that their aims are for public benefit. The charitable activities of GroceryAid are available to people in need who are, or have been, engaged in the grocery or provisions trade, greengrocers and the off-licence trade, in any capacity and for their surviving spouses, civil partners and dependent children. The Trustee Board has discussed the issue of public benefit and are confident that the breadth and scope of the work of the Charity, as disclosed in this Report, clearly falls within the guidelines set in Section 17 of the 2011 Charities Act.

OBJECTIVES & ACTIVITIES

The objectives of the Charity are the provision of relief to persons in need, whether that be through ill health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage who:

- are or have been engaged in the grocery trade, in any capacity; or
- are the surviving spouse, civil partner or otherwise long-term partner or child (or other dependent or former dependent) of persons who have been engaged in the grocery trade

The term 'grocery trade' means any work relating to the manufacturing, logistics, distribution or sales of groceries or other products typically sold in supermarkets, whether wholesale or retail. For the avoidance of doubt, this includes the off-licence trade.

Our vision is that everyone engaged in this trade can turn to us for help. Our long-term objectives are to work with the industry to identify and support those in need, to address social isolation through our Helpline and Carer's initiative and to enhance our income streams to further support our industry colleagues.

The key activities of the Charity are providing emotional, practical and financial support to colleagues working in the grocery sector, who meet our eligibility criteria as agreed and regularly reviewed by the Trustees. This includes, but is not exclusive to:

- Non-repayable financial grants
- 24/7 freephone Helpline providing emotional and practical support
- Relationship counselling
- Legal advice
- Digital wellbeing support for adults and young people
- Online wellbeing platform
- Workplace critical incident support
- Managers support line
- Debt advice
- Online financial wellbeing
- Gambling addiction support

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID

Emotional and practical support services are delivered in partnership with expert, third party organisations, to provide bespoke services to colleagues.

FUNDRAISING

The vast majority of the Charity's income comes from the industry we work to support. This can be in the form of donations and/or by supporting regional and national fundraising events. The remainder is derived from the charity's investments.

GroceryAid fundraises through industry events organised by its branches and its central fundraising team, who on occasion use the services of event management companies to assist in organising events. It also received donations during the year from other organisations which organise events for the industry.

No monies are raised by public collections. As a result, the Charity can be sure there are no fundraising approaches made to vulnerable individuals. GroceryAid does not receive any support from either local or central government.

GroceryAid is registered with the Fundraising Regulator and follows the fundraising code. GroceryAid has not received any complaints about its fundraising activities.

RESERVES POLICY

The aim of our Reserves Policy is to ensure the sustainability of the Charity.

The Charity uses a risk-based approach to the setting of its minimum level of reserves.

The sustainability of the fund is paramount to our beneficiaries and the Trustees believe that having considered our key risks and their potential impact, a minimum level of £6M of reserves is sufficient to cover the current worst case scenario, identified as part of a stress testing exercise. As at 31st March 2024, GroceryAid's free reserves were £11.4M – where the excess reserves will support both the investment in the extension of our support to meet colleagues' new needs but to also meet the increase in the applications for financial support.

As described in the Strategic Report, we have developed a strategy to raise awareness of the Charity within the industry. We are therefore anticipating a significant increase in applications for financial support as a result of this work and that the level of reserves will be reduced over the next 12 months and beyond.

GOING CONCERN

During the year to 31st March 2024, the Charity has been able to run a full calendar of events and moreover increased the number of events we run. The FY25 calendar of events are **already** over 90% sold out and demand for tickets remains strong.

Careful cash management has ensured that the Charity has maintained a strong cash balance. Furthermore, over the last three years, the Charity has not needed to draw down on reserves.

The Trustees have assessed the principal risks and formulated a suitable reserves policy as stated above. A number of scenarios have been modelled based on different income and demand assumptions. Based on the results of these models and the level of reserves, the Trustees are

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID

satisfied that GroceryAid, the charitable organisation, has adequate resources to continue as a going concern.

INVESTMENT POLICY AND PERFORMANCE

As of 31st March 2024, GroceryAid's investment fund was valued at £10,402,854.

This is held by the Charity to underpin the value of Reserves retained to ensure the Charity's sustainability. The Trustees' objective is that the Reserves do not decrease in real value by aiming to achieve long-term capital growth ahead of inflation.

The Reserves are also key in the provision of income to help fund current expenditure. To meet these objectives the Trustee Board has set a target return of CPI +3% per year over a rolling five-year period. This is a target, and the Trustees acknowledge that due to fluctuations in markets this may not always be possible.

The GroceryAid Finance Committee is a sub-committee of the Trustee board and meets quarterly to review financial controls within the charity, oversee investment performance and recommend changes to the investments as necessary. Our Investment Policy allows us to manage the money we raise and the money we need to have in reserve for unforeseen eventualities.

At 31st March 2024, 99% of the reserves were invested in four Common Investment Funds. These are: Newton Growth and Income Fund for Charities, Newton Global Higher Income Fund, Rathbone's Core Investment Fund for Charities and CCLA Charities Property Fund. The remaining 1% is held in cash deposits.

With regard to ethical investing, the Trustees continue to be satisfied that our investment managers invest responsibly, having regard to the Environment, Social and Governance consideration and our managers exercise our stewardship responsibilities in an appropriate way.

SUBSIDIARY COMPANY

The Charity has a wholly owned trading subsidiary which is incorporated in the U.K., GroceryAid Trading Limited, company registration No. 2952403. The company undertakes certain fundraising activities to raise money for its parent company, the National Grocers Benevolent Fund. The company utilises resources from the parent company, which it pays for on an arms-length basis as resources are required.

The company generated a profit for the year of £4.53M and had net assets of £4.66M at the Balance Sheet date.

The Charity will continue to use the Trading Company in future years and will continue to review whether certain fundraising activities are more appropriate for the Trading Company.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEE'S RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees (who are also the directors of National Grocers Benevolent Fund for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the group and charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the group for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- The Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

AUDITORS

A resolution will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting with regard to audit arrangements for the forthcoming financial year.

BY ORDER OF THE TRUSTEES

Ruston Smith (Chair)



4th September 2024

STRATEGIC REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024

PERFORMANCE

During the year to 31st March 2024:

- GroceryAid spent over £6m supporting grocery colleagues and their families with emotional, practical and financial challenges.
- GroceryAid provided over 78,000 incidences of support throughout the financial year, which includes financial grants, calls to the Helpline and use of our digital and partner services. This was a 93% increase on the previous year, mainly driven by grocery colleagues looking for financial help and support due to the cost-of-living crisis.
- GroceryAid provided over 6,800 financial grants, which was an increase of 57% versus the previous financial year. This growth was driven by an increase in the number of Cost-of-Living, Carers, and School Essentials Grants, paid to beneficiaries.
- The School Essentials Grant provided over 5,900 children the opportunity to return to school with a new school uniform and equipment.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

- Our operational unrestricted deficit of £0.2M, which combined with a surplus on restricted funds of £0.3M and a net gain on investments of £0.5M, resulted in an overall surplus of £0.6M. In comparison, in the year to 31st March 2023, there was an annual surplus of £0.2M, which combined with a net loss on investments of £0.6M, resulted in an overall deficit of £0.4M.
- Total income for the period amounted to £15.9M, an increase of £1.9M compared to the prior year and reflects the enhanced events calendar run in the year combined with an increase in corporate donations.
- Total costs of £15.7M were £1.3M higher than the previous year, and reflect increased welfare spend, combined with the costs incurred through an enhanced calendar of events compared to the prior year (including £0.5M donated to Comic Relief as part of the profit share agreement for the Sainsbury's Big Bash event). Net contribution from centrally run events was £0.8M higher than the previous year.
- As of 31st March 2024, cash at bank and in hand was £4.2M, £0.7M lower than the prior year.

PRINCIPAL RISKS & MITIGATIONS

Our Risk Management Policy seeks to identify any major risks to which the Charity may be exposed and that may affect the realisation of our goals.

Our short-term targets and long-term objectives are reviewed by the Trustee Board at our quarterly Trustee meetings. The Risk Assessment procedure is also regularly reviewed and we can confirm systems are in place to mitigate those risks. This assessment forms part of our Policy Document which is updated and issued annually.

The Trustees consider the key risks and mitigations facing GroceryAid are:

- Financial and reputational damage that could occur in the event of a cyberattack on the organisation. Cybercrime continues to rise in scale and complexity. We manage this risk

through regular staff training combined with external penetration and phishing exercises undertaken to determine any potential areas of weakness.

- Income generated from donations and other fundraising activities is insufficient to meet the needs of our beneficiaries. We manage this through reviews and discussions at each Trustee meeting and through our Fundraising Committee, led by the President of GroceryAid, that has over 50 senior members from the industry, who meet three times per year to review and discuss our fundraising efforts.
- Breaches of regulatory body requirements, leads to interventions, fines, closure or in the case of Health & Safety breaches, loss of life. We manage this risk through appropriate insurance, independent reviews of our systems, appropriate policies and processes, and regular reviews to ensure all remains in line with best practice and current legislation.

FUTURE PLANS

Strategy and Business Plan

During the year, GroceryAid worked with Accenture to develop a 2030 vision for the Charity, with a focus on driving awareness, adapting the welfare offer, and outlining new income driving initiatives, to support more grocery colleagues and their families in need.

Our priorities for the 2024/25 year, to further our charitable objects and deliver public benefit are as follows:

- To raise over £9.8m in net income
- To expand our calendar of events to include Morrisons and Booker
- To drive a much higher level of awareness of the Charity's welfare offer with front line grocery workers
- To continue to expand our welfare offer to better reflect the needs of grocery workers and their families
- To continue to grow our welfare spend to match the continued strong growth in the incidences of support
- To ensure the maximum proportion of our income from supporters flows through to helping our beneficiaries.

BY ORDER OF THE TRUSTEES

Ruston Smith (Chair)



4th September 2024

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS AND TRUSTEES OF NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, TRADING AS GROCERYAID

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of National Grocers Benevolent Fund (the 'parent charitable company') and its subsidiaries (the 'group') for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise of the Group Statement of Financial Activities, the Group and Parent Charitable Company Balance Sheets, the Group Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and the parent charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2024 and of the group's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 (as amended) and regulations 6 and 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the group's and parent charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained in the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the strategic report and the trustees' annual report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the strategic report and the trustees' annual report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and parent charitable company and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the strategic report or the trustees' annual report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 or the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the parent charitable company has not kept adequate and sufficient accounting records, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the parent charitable company's financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the group and parent charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the group or parent charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under Section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and under the Companies Act 2006 and report to you in accordance with regulations made under those Acts.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK) we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purposes of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the group and parent charitable company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the trustees.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the group and parent charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the group or parent charitable company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID

- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the group to express an opinion on the consolidated financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the group audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit report.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Explanation as to what extent the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below.

The objectives of our audit in respect of fraud, are; to identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud; to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the assessed risks of material misstatement due to fraud, through designing and implementing appropriate responses to those assessed risks; and to respond appropriately to instances of fraud or suspected fraud identified during the audit. However, the primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of fraud rests with both management and those charged with governance of the charitable company.

Our approach was as follows:

- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory requirements applicable to the charitable company and considered that the most significant are the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 (as amended), regulations 6 and 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended), the Charity SORP, and UK financial reporting standards as issued by the Financial Reporting Council
- We obtained an understanding of how the charitable company complies with these requirements by discussions with management and those charged with governance.
- We assessed the risk of material misstatement of the financial statements, including the risk of material misstatement due to fraud and how it might occur, by holding discussions with management and those charged with governance.
- We inquired of management and those charged with governance as to any known instances of non-compliance or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- Based on this understanding, we designed specific appropriate audit procedures to identify instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. This included making enquiries of management and those charged with governance and obtaining additional corroborative evidence as required.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above. We are less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations that are not closely related to events and transactions reflected in the financial statements. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud

may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and to the charitable company's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members and trustees those matters which we are required to state to them in an auditor's report addressed to them and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to any party other than the charitable company and charitable company's members as a body, and the charity's trustees, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Moore Kingston Smith LLP

Luke Holt (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Moore Kingston Smith LLP, Statutory Auditor

12 September 2024
9 Appold Street
London
EC2A 2AP

Moore Kingston Smith LLP is eligible to act as auditor in terms of Section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	4	1,557,544	823,881	2,381,425	2,246,561
Central fundraising	5	12,845,219	-	12,845,219	11,857,851
Branch fundraising	6	231,608	-	231,608	227,009
Investment Income	7	392,712	-	392,712	275,053
Other Income – gross gain on sale of property		-	-	-	-
Total Income		15,027,083	823,881	15,850,964	14,606,474
Expenditure on:					
Cost of raising funds					
Central fundraising	5	8,944,935	-	8,944,935	8,748,848
Branch fundraising	6	73,084	-	73,084	95,353
Charitable activities					
Grants	8	4,218,305	364,438	4,582,743	3,551,534
Goods and services	8	2,011,492	109,728	2,121,220	2,009,846
Other Expenses	10	6,305	-	6,305	-
Total Expenditure before investments		15,254,121	474,166	15,728,287	14,405,580
Net gains/(losses) on investments	15	521,593	-	521,593	(580,862)
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds		294,555	349,715	644,270	(379,968)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward from previous year		12,574,396	0	12,574,396	12,954,366
Total funds carried forward		12,868,952	349,715	13,218,667	12,574,396

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the period. All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

The notes on pages 23-39 form part of these financial statements.

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID

**CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET
AT 31ST MARCH 2024**

		Group		Charity	
		2024	2023	2024	2023
		£	£	£	£
Notes					
Fixed Assets					
Tangible assets	13	1,373,917	1,445,896	1,373,917	1,445,896
Intangible assets	14	97,440	38,082	97,440	38,082
Investments	15	10,402,854	9,583,054	10,412,854	9,593,054
Total fixed assets		11,874,211	11,067,032	11,884,211	11,077,032
Current Assets					
Debtors	16	9,230,670	6,098,408	1,597,192	1,029,344
Cash at bank and in hand	17	4,208,881	4,869,375	2,292,878	2,179,762
Total current assets		13,439,551	10,967,783	3,890,070	3,209,106
CREDITORS:	18	(12,095,094)	(9,460,419)	(7,204,023)	(5,601,651)
Amounts falling due within one year					
NET CURRENT ASSETS		1,344,457	1,507,364	(3,313,953)	(2,392,545)
NET ASSETS		13,218,667	12,574,396	8,570,258	8,684,487
FUNDS					
Unrestricted income fund	20	12,868,952	12,574,396	8,220,543	8,684,487
Designated fund	20	-	-	-	-

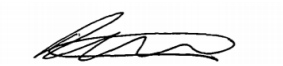
NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID

Restricted income fund	20	349,715	-	349,715	-
TOTAL FUNDS		13,218,667	12,574,396	8,570,258	8,684,487

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on the 4th September 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



Ruston Smith, Chair, GroceryAid Trustees



David Wheeler, Treasurer GroceryAid

Charity Number 1095897
Company Number: 04620683

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID

**CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024**

		2024		2023	
	Note	£	£	£	£
NET CASH (USED IN)/PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES	23		(680,364)		1,115,062
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES					
Dividends, Interest and Rents for Investment		392,712		275,053	
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(1,422)		(264,623)	
Purchase of intangible assets		(73,213)		(6,199)	
Proceeds from the sale of investments		-		-	
Purchase of investments		(298,207)		(260,923)	
Net cash provided by investing activities			(19,870)		(256,692)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period			(660,494)		858,370
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period			4,869,375		4,011,005
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	24		4,208,881		4,869,375

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2024

1. Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies of the charity are as follows:

a) **General information**

The charity is a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is 2 Lakeside Business Park, Swan Lane, Sandhurst, Berkshire, GU47 9DN.

b) **Statement of compliance and basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), and the Companies Act 2006.

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, except for investments which are included at fair value.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102 and has taken regard of the charity commissions guidance on public benefit, including 'Public Benefit: running a charity (PB2)'.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity, and are rounded to the nearest £.

c) **Going Concern**

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis which assumes that the company will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

The Trustees have considered possible events and conditions that might cast significant doubt on the ability of the Charity to continue as a going concern. A number of scenarios have been modelled based on different income and demand assumptions. Based on the results of these models and the level of reserves, the Trustees are satisfied that GroceryAid, the charitable company, will be able to continue its operations and meet its liabilities as they fall due for at least twelve months from the date of approval of the financial statements. The charitable company therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

d) **Method of consolidation**

The financial statements consolidate the results and position of the subsidiary undertaking (see note 3) and all of the Charity's branches on a line-by-line basis in both the Statement of Financial Activities (including income and expenditure account) and the Balance Sheet.

e) **Incoming resources**

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement, it is probable that the amount will be received, and it can be measured reliably as follows:

Voluntary income

Income from donations is accounted for on a receipt.

Grant income

Grants are recognised when any conditions for entitlement are met. Grants received before the conditions for entitlement have been met are deferred and included in creditors at the year end.

Legacies

Income from legacies is accounted for on a receivable basis being included at the earliest of the date of receipt or at the point which notification is received, provided that there is sufficient evidence to provide the necessary probability that the legacy will be received.

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2024

Central and branch fundraising

Income from fundraising is accounted for on a receivable basis. Income associated with a particular event is reported only upon that event having taken place, with income received in advance of events being treated as deferred income.

Investment income

Income from investments is accounted for on a receivable basis.

Gifts in Kind and Donated Services

Items donated to the charity to assist with particular fundraising events are recognised in the financial statements at market value as income to and resources expended against the respective activities. The donation of services to the charity is similarly recognised within the financial statements by the inclusion of a charge to expenditure and a corresponding credit to income, based on the estimated market value.

f) **Resources expended**

Resources expended are accounted for on an accruals basis. The inclusion of costs within the various categories of expenditure was made on the following basis:

Costs of raising funds

This category is used to record any costs which are associated with the cost of raising funds from whatever source and will include costs incurred in attracting donations and sponsorship.

Investment management fees

The cost of managing the Charity's investment funds is not charged separately by the investment managers but is instead effectively recovered by way of a deduction from the funds.

Charitable activities

This category is used to record expenditure incurred in fulfilling the Charity's objectives: it includes the payment of monetary grants to beneficiaries, expenditure made in providing beneficiaries with goods and services, and the costs of distributing and administering such direct charitable provision. The cost of such provision, and that in respect of monetary grants in particular, is recognised when award of the grant has been communicated to the beneficiary. Grants are awarded on an annual basis and are subject to annual review.

Governance

This category comprises costs incurred in the general management of the Charity, as distinct from that concerned directly with the conduct of the Charity's operational activities, and includes those costs associated with ensuring that the Charity complies with applicable laws and regulations, to include the preparation of information required for public accountability.

Allocation and apportionment of costs

Expenditure is classified according to the above headings that aggregate all costs related to those categories, whether they be directly attributable or apportioned as such. The bases of the apportionment of costs are consistent with the use of the staff resources under each heading.

g) **Creditors**

Creditors are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

h) **Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported for assets and liabilities as at the balance sheet date and the amounts reported for income and expenditure during the year. However, the nature of estimation means that actual outcomes could differ from those estimates.

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2024

The key assumptions involving estimation uncertainty at the balance sheet date that have a risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets or liabilities within the next financial year are as follows:

Useful life of Tangible and Intangible fixed assets

Both Tangible and Intangible fixed assets are depreciated over their useful lives. The actual lives of the asset and residual values are assessed annually and may vary depending on a number of factors. The useful life is set depending upon asset class. The Trustees believe this is an appropriate methodology for valuing these fixed assets.

i) **Tangible fixed assets**

Tangible fixed assets are depreciated over their useful lives taking into account residual values, where appropriate. The actual lives of the asset and residual values are assessed annually and may vary depending on a number of factors. Residual value assessments consider issues such as the remaining life of the asset and projected disposal values.

All assets costing over £1,000 are capitalised subject to considerations as to the likely useful life of each item. Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost. Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets over their estimated useful lives by equal annual instalments at the following rates:

Improvements to freehold	2% per annum
Freehold buildings	1% per annum
Office equipment	20% per annum
Furniture fixtures and fittings	10% per annum

No depreciation is provided on freehold land.

j) **Intangible assets**

All assets costing over £1,000 are capitalised subject to considerations as to the likely useful life of each item. Intangible fixed assets are stated at cost. Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets over their estimated useful lives by equal annual instalments at the following rates:

Software	20% per annum
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k) **Financial instruments**

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the transaction price, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where it is recognised at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Current assets and current liabilities are measured at the cash or consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

l) **Investments**

Investments are a form of basic financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value as at the balance sheet date using the bid price. Gains and losses on the disposal and revaluation of investments are charged or credited to the Statement of Financial Activities. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their opening carrying value or their purchase value if acquired subsequent to the first day of the financial year. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and their carrying value. Realised and unrealised

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2024

investment gains and losses are combined in the statement of financial activities. The charity does not acquire put options, derivatives or other complex financial instruments.

m) **Fund accounting**

Funds held by the charity as unrestricted funds are free for the Trustees to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charitable objects as set out in the Charity's Reserves policy. Designated funds are those that have been set aside by Trustees for specific purposes. Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions imposed by the donors. At the year end, any restricted fund deficits can be eliminated by a transfer from unrestricted funds unless the Trustees are of the opinion that such deficits will be eliminated by future giving. There are no transfers out of restricted fund unless approval is given by the donors.

n) **Pension costs**

Pension contributions are charged in the financial statements as they become payable.

o) **Publicity**

Costs associated with the objective of raising awareness of the Charity and its profile, particularly within the grocery trade, are included under this sub-heading within Central Fundraising. This policy was adopted on the basis that increasing awareness of the Charity, particularly within the grocery industry, should enhance its relevance and influence and so, in turn, better enable it to raise funds through its various activities.

p) **Irrecoverable VAT**

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources expended for which it was incurred.

q) **Cash & Cash Equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

2. Results of the parent undertaking

The gross income and result of the parent charity excluding those of its subsidiary were as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Gross income	9,419,249	6,029,799
Net movement in funds	(1,172,968)	(1,674,610)

3. Subsidiary undertaking

The charity has a wholly owned trading subsidiary, GroceryAid Trading Limited, by virtue of the ownership of that company's entire share capital of 10,000 ordinary £1 shares, to which all voting rights are attached. The subsidiary is incorporated in the U.K., company registration number 02952403. GroceryAid Trading Limited may be used to operate certain activities that might be regarded as trading. The Trading Company's registered office is 2 Lakeside Business Park, Swan Lane, Sandhurst, GU47 9DN. The subsidiary donates its taxable profit to the National Grocers Benevolent Fund under the Gift Aid scheme. A summary of its trading results for the year to 31st March 2024 is shown below and accounts will be filed with the Registrar of Companies.

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2024

Profit and Loss Account – Summary	2024	2023
	£	£
Turnover	11,404,809	10,988,891
Net Profit/(Loss) and Retained Reserves	4,529,493	3,770,993

The subsidiary's net assets were comprised as follows:

Debtors	13,141,958	8,811,858
Cash at Bank	1,916,002	2,689,614
Creditors	(10,399,550)	(7,601,562)
Net Assets/(Liabilities)	4,658,410	3,899,910

4. Voluntary Income – Donations and Legacies

	2024	2023
	£	£
Donations – unrestricted	1,557,544	1,655,561
Voluntary Income – restricted:		
Grant from Leverhulme Trade Charities Trust	466,666	466,000
Funds for retailer hardship fund	357,215	125,000
TOTAL	2,381,425	2,246,561

In accordance with FRS 102 and the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the economic contribution of general volunteers is not recognised in the accounts.

5. Fundraising – all Unrestricted

Central fundraising		2024	
	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Surplus</u>
Central fundraising - unrestricted	12,316,226	(6,037,883)	6,278,343
Allocated support costs	-	(2,240,427)	(2,240,427)
PR Marketing	-	(137,632)	(137,632)
Total current central fundraising	12,316,226	(8,416,012)	3,900,284
Gifts in Kind	528,993	(528,993)	-
Total	12,845,219	(8,944,935)	3,900,284

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2024

Central fundraising	2023		
	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Surplus</u>
Central fundraising - unrestricted	10,856,966	(5,754,362)	5,102,604
Allocated support costs	-	(1,895,834)	(1,895,834)
PR Marketing	-	(97,767)	(97,767)
Total current central fundraising	10,856,966	(7,747,963)	3,109,003
Gifts in Kind	1,000,885	(1,000,885)	-
Total	11,857,851	(8,748,848)	3,109,003

PR Marketing costs includes the estimated value of discounted advertisements placed in various trade publications of £16,300 (2023: £91,284) and related development work. This support is to help raise the awareness of the work of the charity and its fundraising efforts.

6. Branch fundraising

	2024			2023
	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Surplus</u>	<u>Surplus</u>
	£	£	£	£
Total Branch Fundraising	231,608	(73,084)	158,524	131,656

Gifts in Kind are included in the individual branch fundraising income and expenses above amounting to £nil in total (2023: £nil)

7. Investment income

	2024		2023
	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
	£	£	£
Dividend and other investment income	306,264	306,264	274,538
Bank deposit interest receivable	86,448	86,448	515
Other investment income	-	-	-
Total Investment Income	392,712	392,712	275,053

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2024

8. Charitable expenditure

2024

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
Monetary Grants	3,135,881	364,438	3,500,319
Provision of goods and services	1,547,595	109,728	1,657,323
Allocated support costs	1,546,321	-	1,546,321
Total	6,229,797	474,166	6,703,963

2023

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
Monetary Grants	2,143,796	421,404	2,565,200
Provision of goods and services	1,452,036	135,096	1,587,132
Allocated support costs	1,409,048	-	1,409,048
Total	5,004,880	556,500	5,561,380

The grants paid to individuals are to relieve financial hardship in accordance with the objects of the Charity. The provision of goods and services includes one-off crisis payments, provision of basic essentials, helpline facilities, respite and other goods and services in furtherance of the charity's objects.

9. Governance costs

	2024 £	2023 £
Audit – Current year	36,308	24,097
Audit – Relating to Prior year	-	-
Meetings	77	82
Legal advice	77,565	155,397
Other Services (including payroll, VAT & Tax)	30	25
Trustees' expenses	-	-
Trustees' indemnity insurance	5,911	5,218
	119,891	184,819

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2024

10. Other Expenses

	2024	2023
	£	£
Legal advice	-	-
Release of other creditor	-	-
Prior year	6,305	-
	6,305	-

11. Support Costs

2024	Central Fundraising	Charitable Activities	Governance	Total
	£	£	£	£
Staff related costs	1,855,808	883,886	272,747	3,012,441
Direct costs (note 9)	-	-	119,891	119,891
Overheads	488,021	227,779	42,018	757,818
Governance costs	-	434,656	(434,656)	-
Total allocation	2,343,829	1,546,321	-	3,890,150

2023	Central Fundraising	Charitable Activities	Governance	Total
	£	£	£	£
Staff related costs	1,580,522	785,821	222,716	2,589,059
Direct costs (note 9)	-	-	184,819	184,819
Overheads	373,842	184,179	31,512	589,533
Governance costs	-	439,047	(439,047)	-
Total allocation	1,954,364	1,409,047	-	3,363,411

The costs shown above are not specific to any one activity and have been allocated on the basis of a judgement as to the proportion of time spent on each of the activities.

12. Staff costs

	2024	2023
	£	£
Salaries	2,256,834	1,892,259
Termination payments	-	27,350
Temp Staff	40,395	55,168
Employer's National Insurance	248,913	210,664
Pension contributions	276,357	212,603
Health insurance	29,220	22,282
	2,851,719	2,420,326

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2024

The average monthly head count was 53 staff (2023: 41 Staff) and the average monthly number of employees (including casual and part-time staff) during the year was as follows:

	2024	2023
Charitable welfare	18.7	15.3
Fundraising	30.9	23.9
Governance	3.1	2.2
Average Headcount	52.7	41.4

8 out of the total of 53 employees at the year-end are part-time (2023: 7 out of 41 employees). There were 9 employees (2023: 6 employees) with emoluments above £60,000 per annum.

The number of senior post holders and other staff who receive emoluments, excluding pension contributions but including benefits in kind, in the following ranges were:

	2024	2023
£60,000 to £69,999	3	1
£70,000 to £79,999	3	1
£80,000 to £89,999	-	-
£90,000 to £99,999	1	1
£100,000 to £109,999	1	1
£110,000 to £119,999	1	1
£120,000 to £129,999	-	-
£130,000+	-	1

- (i) The pension arrangements operated by the charity are for all members of staff and provide benefits on a defined contribution basis. Contributions paid in accordance with the rules of the scheme are charged to the statement of financial activities as they become payable. The cost for the year was £276,357 (2023: £212,603) and there were no outstanding or prepaid contributions at the balance sheet date.
- (ii) The charity holds an investment bond, valued in the accounts at £436 (2023: £427), which is used to supplement the pension of a former Director General.
- (iii) Funds belonging to the Charity have been used for the purchase of insurance to indemnify the Trustees against the consequences of any neglect or default on their part. The cost recognised for the year in providing that insurance was £5,911 (2023: £5,218).
- (iv) The key management personnel of the charity comprise the Trustees, Chief Executive, Fundraising Director, Welfare Director and Finance Director & Company Secretary. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £550,460 (2023: £647,383).
- (v) During the period, no termination payments were made (2023: termination payments were made to one individual)
- (vi) During the period, no trustees received any remuneration, nor did they receive any expenses (2023: £nil)

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2024

13. Tangible assets

	Freehold land and buildings £	Office Equipment £	Furniture, fixtures and fittings £	Total £
<u>Cost:</u>				
Brought forward	1,555,018	109,535	32,913	1,697,466
Additions	-	1,422	-	1,422
Disposals	-	(4,717)	-	(4,717)
Carried forward	1,555,018	106,240	32,913	1,694,171
<u>Depreciation</u>				
Brought forward	194,492	48,162	8,916	251,570
Charge for year	49,430	20,313	3,146	72,889
Disposals	-	(4,205)	-	(4,205)
Carried forward	243,922	64,270	12,062	320,254
Net book value carried forward	1,311,096	41,970	20,851	1,373,917
Net book value brought forward	1,360,526	61,373	23,997	1,445,896

All of the Charity group's fixed assets were held for functional charity use and all assets are used in the running and administration of the Charity.

14. Intangible assets

	Website £	Software £	Total £
<u>Cost:</u>			
Brought forward	45,376	145,062	190,438
Additions	-	73,213	73,213
Disposals	-	(79,582)	(79,582)
Carried forward	45,376	138,693	184,069
<u>Depreciation</u>			
Brought forward	21,786	130,570	152,356
Charge for year	9,075	4,780	13,855
Disposals	-	(79,582)	(79,582)
Carried forward	30,861	55,768	86,629
Net book value carried forward	14,515	82,925	97,440
Net book value brought forward	23,590	14,492	38,082

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2024

15. Investments

	Group		Charity	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
<u>Analysis of Movement of Investments</u>				
Market value at beginning of year	9,593,054	9,912,993	9,593,054	9,912,993
Additions to investments at cost	298,207	260,923	298,207	260,923
Disposals at market value	-	-	-	-
Net gain/(loss) on revaluation	521,593	(580,862)	521,593	(580,862)
Market value at end of year	10,412,854	9,593,054	10,412,854	9,593,054
<u>Investments held</u>				
Listed investments	10,402,854	9,583,054	10,402,854	9,583,054
Investments in subsidiary undertakings	-	-	10,000	10,000
Total investments held	10,402,854	9,583,054	10,412,854	9,593,054

Unrestricted fund investments consist of a portfolio of listed investments managed on the charity's behalf by professional fund managers. The following investments make up more than 5% of the total investment portfolio:

	% of total	Market Value
BNY Mellon Global Income Fund Newton Inst Shares 1	17%	£1,744,278
Newton Growth and Income Fund for Charities Inc Class	31%	£3,188,309
Rathbones Core Investment Fund for Charities	39%	£4,102,582
CCLA COIF Charities Property Fund	13%	£1,366,100

16. Debtors

	Group		Charity	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
Current:				
Trade debtors	6,336,642	4,032,275	1,289,196	797,859
Amounts due from subsidiary undertaking			-	-
Other debtors	2,587,532	1,836,148	1,500	1,500
Prepayments	172,428	134,652	172,428	134,652
Accrued income	134,068	87,222	134,068	87,222
	9,230,670	6,090,297	1,597,192	1,021,233
Loans receivable secured on property	-	8,111	-	8,111
	9,230,670	6,098,408	1,597,192	1,029,344

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2024

17. Cash at bank and in hand

	Group		Charity	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Head office bank current account	2,289,275	1,925,933	2,289,275	1,925,934
Head office deposit accounts	195	251,925	195	251,925
Trading Co bank account	1,916,002	2,689,614	-	-
Branch bank accounts *	3,409	1,903	3,408	1,903
	4,208,881	4,869,375	2,292,878	2,179,762

*Deposit account in Northern Ireland only.

18. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Group		Charity	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Trade creditors	(1,032,234)	(987,378)	(228,265)	(124,545)
Other creditors	(9,885,051)	(7,006,922)	(699,628)	(791,983)
Accruals	(113,572)	(105,500)	(84,011)	(60,929)
Deferred income	(1,064,238)	(1,360,619)	(683,640)	(881,400)
Amounts due to subsidiary undertaking	-	-	(5,508,479)	(3,742,794)
	(12,095,095)	(9,460,419)	(7,204,023)	(5,601,651)

Movement on deferred income balances was as follows:

	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Balance brought forward	(1,360,619)	(4,176,029)	(881,400)	(375,799)
Released to statement of financial activities	1,360,619	4,176,029	881,400	375,799
Fund raising proceeds received	(1,064,238)	(1,360,619)	(683,640)	(881,400)
Balance carried forward	(1,064,238)	(1,360,619)	(683,640)	(881,400)

19. Commitments under operating lease

	2024	2023
	£	£
Office equipment		
Amounts to be paid		
Within 1 year	7,072	3,577
Between 2 - 5 Years	8,402	5,864
Over 5 Years	-	-
	15,474	9,441

Operating lease costs in the year ending 31st March 2024, were £4,451. (2023: £5,850)

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2024

20. Funds

At the balance sheet date restricted funds were represented by current assets with the balance of the Charity's assets and liabilities were representing the unrestricted funds.

The Restricted Funds comprise:

- 1) The Leverhulme Trade Charities Trust grant received during the year, which can only be used for certain categories of our beneficiaries. As at the end of FY24, there were no unspent funds.
- 2) Unspent funds from a retailer for a fund administered by the charity for those in the industry impacted by breast cancer.

GROUP	Brought forward	Income	Expenditure	Gains/ (losses)	Transfers	Carried forward
Year to 31 March 2024						
General funds						
Unrestricted fund	12,574,396	15,027,083	(15,254,120)	521,593	-	12,868,952
Total general funds	12,574,396	15,027,083	(15,254,120)	521,593	-	12,868,952
Restricted funds						
Leverhulme Trade Charities Trust	-	466,666	(466,666)	-	-	-
Breast Cancer Fund	-	357,215	(7,500)	-	-	349,715
Total restricted funds	-	823,881	(474,166)	-	-	349,715
Total funds	12,574,396	15,850,964	(15,728,286)	521,593	-	13,218,667

	Brought forward	Income	Expenditure	Gains/ (losses)	Transfers	Carried forward
CHARITY						
Year to 31 March 2024						
General funds						
Unrestricted fund	8,684,487	8,595,369	(9,580,906)	521,593	-	8,220,543
Total general funds	8,684,487	8,595,369	(9,580,906)	521,593	-	8,220,543
Restricted funds						
Leverhulme Trade Charities Trust	-	466,666	(466,666)	-	-	-
Breast Cancer Fund	-	357,215	(7,500)	-	-	349,715
Total restricted funds	-	823,881	(474,166)	-	-	349,715
Total funds	8,684,487	9,419,250	(10,055,072)	521,593	-	8,570,258

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2024

GROUP & CHARITY	Brought forward	Income	Expenditure	Gains/ (losses)	Transfers	Carried forward
Year to 31 March 2023						
General funds						
Unrestricted fund	12,558,620	14,015,475	(13,725,749)	(580,862)	306,912	12,574,396
Designated funds – Covid 19	278,590	-	(123,332)	-	(155,258)	-
Designated funds – office refurb	96,904	-	-	-	(96,904)	-
Total general funds	12,934,114	14,015,475	(13,849,081)	(580,862)	54,750	12,574,396
Restricted funds						
Leverhulme Trade Charities Trust	-	466,000	(466,000)	-	-	-
Retailer hardship fund	20,250	125,000	(90,500)	-	(54,750)	-
Total restricted funds	20,250	591,000	(556,500)	-	(54,750)	-
Total funds	12,954,366	14,606,475	(14,405,581)	(580,862)	-	12,574,396

21. Net assets

2024 Consolidated Group	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	1,373,917	-	1,373,917
Intangible fixed assets	97,440	-	97,440
Investments	10,402,854	-	10,402,854
Current assets	13,089,836	349,715	13,439,551
Current liabilities	(12,095,095)	-	(12,095,095)
Total	12,868,952	349,715	13,218,667

2024 Charity	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	1,373,917	-	1,373,917
Intangible fixed assets	97,440	-	97,440
Investments	10,412,854	-	10,412,854
Current assets	3,540,355	349,715	3,890,070
Current liabilities	(7,204,023)	-	(7,204,023)
Total	8,220,543	349,715	8,570,258

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2024

2023 Consolidated Group	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	1,445,896	-	1,445,896
Intangible fixed assets	38,082	-	38,082
Investments	9,583,054	-	9,583,054
Current assets	10,913,033	54,750	10,967,783
Current liabilities	(9,460,419)	-	((9,460,419))
Total	12,519,646	54,750	12,574,396

2023 Charity	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	1,445,896	-	1,445,896
Intangible fixed assets	38,082	-	38,082
Investments	9,593,054	-	9,593,054
Current assets	3,154,355	54,750	3,209,105
Current liabilities	(5,601,650)	-	(5,601,650)
Total	8,629,737	54,750	8,684,487

22. Legal status of the Charity

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of a winding up is limited to £1.

23. Reconciliation of Net Incoming Resources to Net Cash (Outflow)/Inflow from Operating Activities

	2024	2023
	£	£
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period	644,270	(379,968)
Income from investments	(306,264)	(274,538)
Interest receivable	(86,448)	(515)
(Gains)/losses on investments	(521,593)	(580,862)
Depreciation & Amortisation	86,743	84,768
Loss (Profit) on sale of fixed assets	513	3,487
(Increase)/Decrease in debtors	(3,132,263)	(2,227,924)
Increase/(Decrease) in creditors	2,634,678	3,328,891
Net cash (outflow)/inflow from operating activities	(680,364)	(1,115,062)

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2024

24. Reconciliation of Net cash Flow Movement in Net Funds

	2024	2023
	£	£
Increase/(decrease) in cash in the period	(660,494)	858,370
Change in net funds	(660,494)	858,370
Net funds at 1 April	4,869,375	4,011,005
Net funds at 31 March	4,208,881	4,869,375

25. Analysis of changes in Net Funds

	1-Apr-2023	Cash flows	31-Mar-2024
	£	£	£
Cash at bank	4,869,375	(660,494)	4,208,881

26. Related party transactions

During the year ending 31st March 2024, there were no related party transactions (2023: nil).

27. Parent company Statement of Financial Activity

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£
Income from:				
Donations and legacies	5,328,537	823,881	6,152,418	3,772,249
Central fundraising	2,642,511	-	2,642,511	1,755,488
Branch fundraising	231,608	-	231,608	227,009
Investment Income	392,712	-	392,712	275,053
Total Income	8,595,368	823,881	9,419,249	6,029,799
Expenditure on:				
Cost of generating funds				
Central fundraising	3,271,722	-	3,271,722	2,417,478
Branch fundraising	73,084	-	73,084	95,353
Charitable activities				
Grants	4,218,305	364,438	4,582,743	3,551,534
Goods and services	2,011,492	109,728	2,121,220	2,009,846
Other Expenses	6,303	-	6,303	-
Total Expenditure	9,580,906	474,166	10,055,072	8,074,211

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2024

Net gains/(losses) on investments	521,593	-	521,593	(580,862)
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds	(463,945)	349,715	(114,230)	(2,625,274)
Reconciliation of funds:				
Total funds brought forward from previous year	8,684,487	-	8,684,487	11,309,761
Total funds carried forward	8,220,542	349,715	8,570,257	8,684,487

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND

England & Wales - Charity number 1095897

Accounts

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID

**A Company Limited by Guarantee
Registered Charity**

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31st MARCH 2023

**Registered Charity Number 1095897 (England & Wales) SC039255 (Scotland)
Company Registered in England and Wales Number 04620683**

Registered Office and Principal Address:

**2 Lakeside Business Park,
Swan Lane,
Sandhurst, Berkshire
GU47 9DN**

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023

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LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Directors and Trustees

The directors of the charitable company ("the Charity") are its Trustees for the purposes of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the Trustees. An explanation of the method of appointment of Trustees is provided in the Trustees' Report.

The Trustees serving during the year and at the time the accounts were signed were:

R H Bartlett	
B W Dalla Mura	
L D Hendle	
M McKenzie	
H E Murray	
D Pervez	
M P Smith	
R A M Smith	Chair
L A Stigant	
H M Tatum	
H M Tucker	
J C Uttley	
D C Wheeler	Treasurer
M R Williamson	(Resigned 26 th February 2023)

Life Patrons	Lord Price CVO; Mike Coupe; Paul Monk
President	Allan Leighton
Chief Executive	Steve Barnes (Resigned 17 th March 2023), Mark Williamson (appointed as interim CEO on 17 th March 2023)
Company Secretary	Catherine Robinson-McCormick
Registered Office	2 Lakeside Business Park, Swan Lane, Sandhurst, Berkshire GU47 9DN
Website	www.groceryaid.org.uk
Email	info@groceryaid.org.uk
Independent Auditors	Moore Kingston Smith LLP, 9 Appold Street, London, EC2A 2AP
Bankers	Lloyds Bank, 24 Broad Street, Reading, Berkshire, RG1 2BT
Investment providers	CCLA Investment Management Limited, London Newton Investment Management Limited, London Rathbone Brothers Plc, London

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

CHAIR'S STATEMENT

The Resolution Foundation has cited that “the typical working-age household faces an income fall of 4%, or £1,100, in 2022-23. But the greatest falls will be felt by the poorest quarter of households who are set to see their incomes fall by 6 %. This will see a further 1.3 million people fall into absolute poverty next year, including 500,000 children – the first time Britain has seen such a rise in poverty outside of recessions.”

Likewise, colleagues in the grocery industry are struggling with the cost of living which, in some cases, is also affecting their mental health particularly where mortgage and rental costs are increasingly a worry. GroceryAid, thanks to the generosity of its supporters, are always ready to support industry colleagues in need.

Supporting Industry Colleagues

Demand for welfare support across the industry has risen significantly in the year ending 31st March 2023, due to higher interest rates, rents and price increases, and the total incidences of support have risen 44% compared to the prior year – with an expectation that even more colleagues will reach out for support this year.

The increased awareness being driven through our relationships with HR / People teams, wellbeing champions, mental health first aiders and employee voice groups, alongside an active community for our GA Engage webinars and the strong messaging being shared by Comms across all social media platforms has enabled us to reach even more colleagues this year and getting ‘deeper’ into organisations so we reach all areas of a business remains our priority.

GroceryAid works closely with senior industry colleagues to make sure that the Welfare offering remains relevant to those working in the industry today. As a result, during the year we were delighted to be able to begin working with GamCare to provide expert support to households where gambling is having a negative impact.

During the year to 31st March 2021, the Trustees designated £1.5M to offer enhanced mental health support, bereavement grants and crisis grants for grocery colleagues directly affected by the pandemic. The Covid-19 fund continued to support colleagues through to the end of October 2022. At this point any further applications relating to Covid-19 were dealt with as part of the core financial grants process and the remaining £0.2M of the original £1.5M designated fund was released into general funds.

In June 2022 we ran our School Essentials Grant for the third year running and awarded £651,600 in financial support, to enable over 4,000 children of grocery colleagues to start the academic year with a new uniform and equipment.

We also launched a cost-of-living grant in January 2023, in response to how the increase in cost of living was affecting households, to support the lowest paid colleagues in the industry.

As we progress through 2023, we expect continued growth in applications as the cost-of-living crisis deepens and will be continuing with the cost-of-living grant for the foreseeable future. The increase in use of our Partner Services is vital to ensuring we offer a full and holistic suite of services.

We will continue to work with the Welfare Strategy Group and our Service Partners to develop and grow our support for everyone in the industry who needs us and maintain our relationship as a trusted partner with businesses throughout the Trade.

Reaching Out and Raising Awareness

Raising awareness remains a key priority for GroceryAid and our focus is to ensure we reach all who need our support.

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID

We have a strong focus on social media and digital channels and, with new ways of working learned through the pandemic, means we are able to reach far more colleagues through online presentations than we could ever have delivered face to face.

GroceryAid Day is a key annual event whereby we encourage the whole industry to raise awareness of the Charity. GroceryAid Day was held on 26th April 2022 and we saw 228 companies take part - an increase of 12% on the previous year. The activity on that day had an estimated reach of 5.9M individuals.

We re-launched the GroceryAid Awareness Network programme in January 2023. This is an initiative aimed at aspiring future leaders of the industry, from any area of an organization. It's a brilliant opportunity for young professionals within the industry to play a proactive role in creating awareness and understanding of the charity within their respective organisations. In return, members have the opportunity to learn and network with likeminded people.

GA Engage, a community for HR and internal communications professionals within the industry has grown significantly in the year, with 1,167 members as at 31st March 2023, compared to 869 as at 31st March 2022, an increase of 34%. GA Engage provides quarterly updates on our latest welfare and marketing initiatives so these can be shared internally within companies. We also provide monthly communications toolkits for companies to drive awareness of the support the charity can offer throughout the trade.

Our case study films allow us to emotionally engage with our supporters, the most recent being Helen's Story, launched in November 2022, which demonstrated the positive impact that our non-financial support can provide.

Fundraising

We had an excellent year in 2022 as we exceeded our fundraising targets for the year. This was against a backdrop of pressure in the industry from the cost of living crisis.

For the first year since before Covid we were able to run a full calendar of events:

- In May 2022, we ran the Windermere Row for the first time since 2019.
- In December we ran the Sainsbury's Big Bash for the first time. This event had been planned to run in both 2020 and 2021, but both had been cancelled due to Covid. This was GroceryAid's first £1.0M event, with 50% of the profits being shared with Comic Relief.
- The September cycling event, which had been held within the UK in 2021, was able to return to its preferred route: London to Paris. This was incredibly well received by the industry with 178 riders taking part (compared to 127 riders completing Bike to the Bard in 2021).

Our branch network, whose fundraising activities were significantly curtailed during Covid returned to a full calendar of events with the Scotland branch delivering the inaugural Checkout Scotland event in September 2022 and the Northern Ireland branch delivering its full calendar of events and significant additional fundraising activity. We are very grateful to all the Branch chairs and volunteers for their time and effort in raising funds and awareness for the Charity.

During the year, the South West branch closed, with Adrian Carne stepping down as Chair. Furthermore, in June 2023, the Northern and Northeast & York branches merged to form a single Northern branch, with both Andy Morrison, Dave Lamport, the respective Chairs of the individual branches stepping down. We are grateful to the outgoing Chairs and their committees for all they have done and achieved over the years.

We now have three strong regional fundraising branches – Scotland, Northern Ireland and Northern.

We continued to receive support from trusts and foundations that have their roots in the grocery industry to help those in need and we continued to receive strong levels of donations from organisations within the grocery industry itself.

Diversity and Inclusion in Grocery

During the year, the Charity continued to organize and deliver the Diversity & Inclusion in Grocery (DIG) programme. The programme was founded by five partners in 2019 and has seen enormous growth with 90

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID

partners this year. The programme helps to connect the partners to accelerate their D&I journeys, provides the largest D&I event for the industry, a highly successful 12 month mentoring programme, monthly virtual learning labs and an interactive hub with over 1,350 users.

The programme's vision is to accelerate a truly diverse and inclusive grocery industry. We will achieve this by:

- **Leading** and being brave and bold, unafraid of making mistakes and pushing boundaries to continuously improve
- **Engaging** colleagues at every level in our member organisations to accelerate change
- **Connecting** our partner organisations to enable, support and grow

Collectively, our Partners have an estimated 1.1 million UK colleagues and an additional 4.5 million colleagues globally. Not only is D&I in Grocery a collaborative platform for colleagues across the industry to learn from each other, it is also a fundraising initiative. In the year ending 31st March 2023 it raised more than £720,000.

Our People, Our Volunteers, Our Supporters

On 17th March 2023, Steve Barnes, the CEO, stepped down after six successful years leading the charity for family reasons. Steve made a significant contribution to GroceryAid over the last six years, not least leading the charity through the pandemic. As Chief Executive, Steve played a key role in launching GroceryAid's emergency COVID-19 Fund to rapidly support key workers in the industry that were working on the frontline to help feed the nation. We wish him every success in the future.

Mark Williamson was appointed the interim CEO whilst the search and recruitment process for a permanent replacement was concluded and, whilst acting in this capacity, stood down from the Trustee Board as a director.

We are very grateful to Mark for acting as interim CEO who brought with him a wealth of experience of over 35 years in the grocery trade including multiple senior leadership positions at Waitrose and Sainsbury's and, up until 2017, sat on Waitrose's Management Board for 10 years as their Commercial Director.

On the 27th June we announced the appointment of Kieran Hemsworth as the Chief Executive of GroceryAid.

Kieran brings a wealth of executive experience spanning 30 years in the FMCG industry, holding senior positions at both globally renowned companies and home-grown British brands. With a background in corporate leadership, marketing and strategy, Kieran spent over 17 years at Coca-Cola ascending to European Operational Marketing Vice President, before taking on Managing Director roles at Ginsters and PZ Cussons. Most recently Kieran, has taken the time to complete an MBA.

Kieran joined GroceryAid on 4th September 2023 at which point Mark Williamson stepped down as Interim CEO, and was re-appointed as a Trustee.

During the year there were no other changes to the Trustee Board. I would like to thank the Trustee board for everything they have done over the last year which is really appreciated.

GroceryAid's work of providing vital emotional, practical and financial support services to the industry remains more critical than ever. GroceryAid today is supporting more people working in the grocery trade than ever before, funded by its generous partners and donors of retailers and manufacturers. Last year, the charity provided support to over 40,000 colleagues across the UK, an increase of 61% from the previous year.

During the year we invested in strengthening the GroceryAid team with recruitment in a number of key areas to support the ever-increasing numbers of colleagues in the industry who reach out for help and also to run an increasingly large calendar of events.

I am incredibly proud of the GroceryAid team along with our wonderful group of volunteers, who stretch themselves to do incredible things for grocery people in need. I am also humbled by the feedback we receive from beneficiaries which inspires us to work even harder on their behalf.

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID

I would like to once again thank our supporters for their generosity and our team and its volunteers in enabling GroceryAid to be able to support industry colleagues when they need it most.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ruston Smith', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ruston Smith
Chair of GroceryAid Trustees

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The National Grocers Benevolent Fund, trading as GroceryAid, is a registered charity in England and Wales (registration number 1095897) and Scotland (registration number SC039255) and is constituted as a company limited by guarantee (registration number 04620683).

The charity is run by 14 serving Trustees who are also directors and members of the limited company. In that capacity they select new members of the Board of Trustees.

Trustees are responsible for compliance with our legal and statutory requirements and the safe and effective running of the charity. They meet every quarter to discuss and review both the day-to-day operations and the strategic direction of the charity. In addition, the Trustees also meet on an ad hoc basis when required. The CEO, appointed by the Trustees as Chief Executive, manages the day-to-day operations of the charity and reports to the quarterly Trustee meetings and contributes to the discussions in an advisory capacity. The senior direct reports are Mandi Leonard, Welfare Director, Jane Hill, Fundraising Director and Catherine Robinson-McCormick, Finance Director.

Remuneration for key management personnel is determined by a sub-committee of the Trustee Board - the Remuneration Committee. This committee has specific delegated responsibilities to:

- Set the remuneration policy for directors (salary, pension and benefits) in line with the approach taken for GroceryAid's employees
- Determine salary levels for directors considering:
 - Individual directors' capabilities and contribution;
 - Salary levels for comparable roles in organisations identified as suitable benchmarks;
 - Salary levels across GroceryAid; and
 - Overall appropriateness given charitable purpose, stakeholder perception and affordability.
- Be kept informed by the Chief Executive of any significant changes in the remuneration arrangements for GroceryAid's employees.

The objectives of our senior remuneration policy are:

- To be able recruit and retain individuals who will lead the successful delivery of our mission, and
- To reward them fairly taking account of their contribution, market levels and levels within GroceryAid.

The Remuneration Committee meets at least twice annually and is chaired by Hayley Tatum.

Various Trustees and industry colleagues sit on one or more of our five sub-committees covering welfare, welfare strategy, finance, fundraising and remuneration. These committees consider each of their areas, in depth, and report to the Trustee Board on key developments, risks, plans and initiatives. Formal terms of reference exist for these committees, and these are set out in the GroceryAid Policy Document, which is reviewed and updated annually. This document also contains various processes and procedures to ensure that we have appropriate controls in place for the effective and efficient operation of the charity.

From 2018, it was agreed that Trustees can serve for a three-year period and may be re-elected to serve for two further three-year periods. All GroceryAid Trustees have signed an 'Eligibility to Serve' declaration form, and a Declaration of Interest and Connected Persons form. The possible existence of conflicts of interest is considered prior to the start of every meeting of the Board of Trustees. The Declaration of Interest and Connected Persons forms are completed annually and are held on file at the GroceryAid offices.

New Trustees, as a qualification, must have worked or currently work in any area within the grocery industry. All nominations are approved by the Board of Trustees. All new Trustees have a formal induction that covers the role of the charity and what is expected of them in their role as GroceryAid Trustees. Governance requirements of both Trustees and Senior Management are incorporated into the GroceryAid Policy Manual which forms part of ongoing training and updates at Trustee meetings.

No Trustees are paid by the charity for their services.

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID

Charity law requires organisations to demonstrate explicitly that their aims are for public benefit. The charitable activities of GroceryAid are available to people in need who are, or have been, engaged in the grocery or provisions trade, greengrocers and the off-licence trade, in any capacity and for their surviving spouses, civil partners and dependent children. The Trustee Board have discussed the issue of public benefit and are confident that the breadth and scope of the work of the Charity, as disclosed in this Report, clearly falls within the guidelines set in Section 17 of the 2011 Charities Act.

OBJECTIVES & ACTIVITIES

The objectives of the charity are the provision of relief to persons in need, whether that be through ill health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage who:

- are or have been engaged in the grocery trade, in any capacity; or
- are the surviving spouse, civil partner or otherwise long-term partner or child (or other dependent or former dependent) of persons who have been engaged in the grocery trade

The term grocery trade means any work relating to the manufacturing, logistics, distribution or sales of groceries or other products typically sold in supermarkets, whether wholesale or retail. For the avoidance of doubt, this includes the off-licence trade.

Our vision is that everyone engaged in this trade can turn to us for help. Our long-term objectives are to work with the industry to identify and support those in need, to address social isolation through our Helpline and Carer's initiative and to enhance our income streams to further support our industry colleagues.

The key activities of the charity are providing emotional, practical and financial support to colleagues working in the grocery sector, who meet our eligibility criteria as agreed and regularly reviewed by the Trustees. This includes, but is not exclusive to:

- Non-repayable financial grants
- 24/7 freephone Helpline providing emotional and practical support
- Relationship counselling
- Legal advice
- Digital wellbeing support for adults and young people
- Online wellbeing platform
- Workplace critical incident support
- Managers support line
- Debt advice
- Online financial wellbeing
- Gambling addiction support

Emotional and practical support services are delivered in partnership with expert, third party organisations, to provide bespoke services to colleagues.

FUNDRAISING

The vast majority of the charity's income comes from the industry we work to support. This can be in the form of donations and/or by supporting regional and national fundraising events. The remainder is derived from the charity's investments.

GroceryAid fundraises through industry events organised by its branches and its central fundraising team who on occasion use the services of event management companies to assist in organising events. It also received donations during the year from other organisations which organised events for the industry.

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID

No monies are raised by public collections. As a result the Charity can be sure there are no fundraising approaches made to vulnerable individuals. GroceryAid does not receive any support from either local or central government.

GroceryAid is registered with the Fundraising Regulator and follows the fundraising code. GroceryAid has not received any complaints about its fundraising activities.

PRINCIPAL RISKS & MITIGATIONS

Our Risk Management Policy seeks to identify any major risks to which the Charity may be exposed and that may affect the realisation of our goals.

Our short-term targets and long-term objectives are reviewed by the Trustee Board at our quarterly Trustee meetings. The Risk Assessment procedure is also regularly reviewed, and we can confirm systems are in place to mitigate those risks. This assessment forms part of our Policy Document which is updated and issued annually.

The Trustees consider the key risks facing GroceryAid are:

- Income generated from donations and other fundraising activities is insufficient to meet the needs of our beneficiaries. We manage this through review and discussions at each Trustee meeting and through our Fundraising Committee, led by the President of GroceryAid, that has over 50 senior members from the industry who meet three times per year to review and discuss our fundraising efforts.
- An unforeseen rise in the demand for GroceryAid's services result in a significant increase in the applications for help and support. We manage this risk through our Welfare Committee, Finance Committee and the Trustee Board who continually review our financial position.
- Financial and reputational damage that could occur in the event of a cyberattack on the organization. Cybercrime continues to rise in scale and complexity. We manage this risk through regular staff training combined with external penetration and phishing exercises undertaken to determine any potential areas of weakness.

RESERVES POLICY

The aim of our Reserves Policy is to ensure the sustainability of the Charity.

The Trustees have reviewed the Reserves Policy of the Charity as set out in the GroceryAid Policy Document. Sustainability of the fund is paramount to our beneficiaries and the Trustees believe that a minimum level of £5M of reserves is sufficient to cover three years beneficiary payments and the infrastructure required to administer these payments in a number of stress tested scenarios. As at 31st March 2023, GroceryAid's free reserves were £11.0M.

We are anticipating significant increase in applications for financial support through the year ending 31st March 2024 as the Cost of Living crisis continues to have a detrimental impact on households budgets for thousands of individuals and families within the Industry. We therefore, expect that the level of reserves will reduce over the next 12 months.

Furthermore, we continue to experience volatility in the market value of investments in response to the ongoing conflict in Ukraine and the Cost of Living Crisis.

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID

GOING CONCERN

During the year to 31st March 2023, the Charity was able to run a full calendar of events for the first time since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic. The FY24 calendar of events are over 90% sold out and demand for tickets remains strong.

Careful cash management has ensured that that Charity has maintained a strong cash balance. Furthermore, over the last three years, the Charity has not needed to draw down on reserves.

The Trustees have assessed the principal risks and formulated a suitable reserves policy as stated above. A number of scenarios have been modelled based on different income and demand assumptions. Based on the results of these models and the level of reserves, the Trustees are satisfied that GroceryAid, the charitable organisation, has adequate resources to continue as a going concern.

INVESTMENT POLICY AND PERFORMANCE

As at 31st March 2023, GroceryAid's investment fund was valued at £9,583,054.

This is held by the Charity to underpin the value of Reserves retained to ensure the Charity's sustainability. The Trustees objective is that the Reserves do not decrease in real value by aiming to achieve long-term capital growth ahead of inflation.

The Reserves are also key in the provision of income to help fund current expenditure. To meet these objectives the Trustee Board has set a target return of CPI +3% per year over a rolling five-year period. This is a target and the Trustees acknowledge that due to fluctuations in markets this may not always be possible.

The GroceryAid Finance Committee is a sub-committee of the Trustee board and meets quarterly to review financial controls within the charity, oversee investment performance and recommend changes to the investments as necessary. Our Investment Policy allows us to manage the money we raise and the money we need to have in reserve for unforeseen eventualities.

At 31st March 2023, 99% of the reserves were invested in four Common Investment Funds. These are: Newton Growth and Income Fund for Charities, Newton Global Higher Income Fund, Rathbone's Core Investment Fund for Charities and CCLA Charities Property Fund. The remaining 1% is held in cash deposits.

With regard to ethical investing, the Trustees continue to be satisfied that our investment managers invest responsibly, having regard to the Environment, Social and Governance consideration and our managers exercise our stewardship responsibilities in an appropriate way. Any investments that may hamper the work of the Charity will be avoided as will those deemed inappropriate on moral grounds to avoid reputational damage to the charity, which could in turn negatively impact on fundraising activities. Investments that would pose a risk of significant financial detriment will also be avoided.

SUBSIDIARY COMPANY

The Charity has a wholly owned trading subsidiary which is incorporated in the U.K., GroceryAid Trading Limited, company registration No. 2952403. The company undertakes certain fundraising activities to raise money for its parent company, the National Grocers Benevolent Fund. The company utilises resources from the parent company, which it pays for on an arms-length basis as resources are required.

The company generated a profit for the year of £3.77M and had net assets of £3.89M at the Balance Sheet date.

The Charity will continue to use the Trading Company in future years and will continue to review whether certain fundraising activities are more appropriate for the Trading Company.

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEE'S RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees (who are also the directors of National Grocers Benevolent Fund for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the group and charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the group for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- The Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

AUDITORS

A resolution will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting with regard to audit arrangements for the forthcoming financial year.

The charitable company has taken advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing this Trustees Report.

BY ORDER OF THE TRUSTEES

Ruston Smith (Chair)



xxth November 2023

STRATEGIC REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023

PERFORMANCE

Demand for our welfare services has continue to grow through the year. We continue to support both our working colleagues and those who have retired from the trade.

During the year to 31st March 2023:

- GroceryAid spent £5.6M to support grocery colleagues coping with financial, emotional and practical challenges during the year ending 31st March 2023.
- There was a 35% increase in applications for our core GroceryAid financial support grants. In addition, we increased the School Essential grant fund from £0.5M to £0.65M.
- We provided 40,587 incidences of emotional, practical and financial support, an increase of 44% on the previous year, due to increased awareness and support provided on the cost of living crisis
- Calls to GroceryAid's Helpline were up by 15%. Our Helpline provides problem-solving information and emotional support to anybody working in the industry and their partners/spouses.
- Demand for our digital support services increased by 180%, which includes website support and referrals for Rightsteps, Kooth, StepChange and GamCare
- For a fifth year running, our largest percentage of referrals came from companies in our industry – awareness of GroceryAid is growing where we need it.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Our operational annual surplus was £0.2M, which combined with a net loss on investments of £0.6M, resulted in an overall deficit of £0.4M. In comparison, in the year to 31st March 2022, there was an annual deficit of £0.1M, which combined with a net gain on investments of £0.7M, resulted in an overall surplus of £0.6M.

Total income for the period amounted to £14.0M, an increase of £2.6M compared to the prior year and reflects the enhanced events calendar run in the year combined with an increase in corporate donations.

Total costs of £13.9M were £2.3M higher than the previous year, and reflect increased welfare spend, combined with the costs incurred through an enhanced calendar of events compared to the prior year (including £0.5M donated to Comic Relief as part of the profit share agreement for the Sainsbury's Big Bash event). Despite this donation, net contribution from centrally run events was £0.6M higher than the previous year.

As at 31st March 2023, cash at bank and in hand was £4.9M, £0.9M higher than the prior year.

FUTURE PLANS

Strategy and Business Plan

Our priorities for 2023/24 to further our charitable objects and deliver public benefit are to:

- Raise over £7.5M (net) through fundraising
- Look to expand and develop the fundraising calendar of events
- Ensure the maximum proportion of every pound spent by companies supporting GroceryAid flows through to beneficiaries
- Continue to drive greater awareness of GroceryAid's services throughout our industry to reach out to more colleagues who need our support

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID

- Continue to expand and embed the Diversity and Inclusion in Grocery Programme, a programme created by the industry, for the industry in order to move the dial in D&I

BY ORDER OF THE TRUSTEES

Ruston Smith (Chair)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Ruston Smith', written over a faint rectangular stamp.

14th November 2023

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS AND TRUSTEES OF NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, TRADING AS GROCERYAID

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of National Grocers Benevolent Fund (the 'parent charitable company') and its subsidiaries (the 'group') for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the Group Statement of Financial Activities, the Group and Parent Charitable Company Balance Sheets, the Group Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and the parent charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2023 and of the group's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the group's and parent charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID

otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the [strategic report and the] trustees' annual report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees' annual report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and parent charitable company and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' annual report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the parent charitable company has not kept adequate and sufficient accounting records, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the parent charitable company's financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies exemption in preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and from preparing a strategic report.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the group and parent charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the group or parent charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under the Companies Act 2006 and section 151 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with those Acts.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID

from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK) we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purposes of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the group and parent charitable company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the trustees.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the group and parent charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the group or parent charitable company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the group to express an opinion on the consolidated financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the group audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit report.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Explanation as to what extent the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below.

The objectives of our audit in respect of fraud, are; to identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud; to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the assessed risks of material misstatement due to fraud, through designing and implementing appropriate responses to those assessed risks; and to respond appropriately to instances of fraud or suspected fraud identified during the audit. However, the primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of fraud rests with both management and those charged with governance of the charitable company.

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID

Our approach was as follows:

- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory requirements applicable to the charitable company and considered that the most significant are the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011, the Charity SORP, and UK financial reporting standards as issued by the Financial Reporting Council
- We obtained an understanding of how the charitable company complies with these requirements by discussions with management and those charged with governance.
- We assessed the risk of material misstatement of the financial statements, including the risk of material misstatement due to fraud and how it might occur, by holding discussions with management and those charged with governance.
- We inquired of management and those charged with governance as to any known instances of non-compliance or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- Based on this understanding, we designed specific appropriate audit procedures to identify instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. This included making enquiries of management and those charged with governance and obtaining additional corroborative evidence as required.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above. We are less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations that are not closely related to events and transactions reflected in the financial statements. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and, in respect of the consolidated financial statements, to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 8 of the Charities Act 2011. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members and trustees those matters which we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to any party other than the charitable company, the charitable company's members, as a body, and the charity's trustees, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinion we have formed.

Handwritten signature of Luke Holt in black ink, reading "Moore Kingston Smith LLP" with a subscript "2" below the "P".

Luke Holt (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Moore Kingston Smith LLP, Statutory Auditor

21 November 2023
9 Appold Street
London
EC2A 2AP

Moore Kingston Smith LLP is eligible to act as auditor in terms of Section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	4	1,655,561	591,000	2,246,561	2,260,179
Central fundraising	5	11,857,851	-	11,857,851	9,282,502
Branch fundraising	6	227,009	-	227,009	217,135
Investment Income	7	275,053	-	275,053	239,497
Other Income – gross gain on sale of property		-	-	-	228,000
Total Income		14,015,474	591,000	14,606,474	12,227,313
Expenditure on:					
Cost of raising funds					
Central fundraising	5	8,748,848	-	8,748,848	6,743,730
Branch fundraising	6	95,353	-	95,353	39,961
Charitable activities					
Grants	8	3,130,130	421,404	3,551,534	3,975,225
Goods and services	8	1,874,750	135,096	2,009,846	1,624,549
Other Expenses	10	-	-	-	3,019
Total Expenditure		13,849,080	556,500	14,405,580	12,386,484
Net gains/(losses) on investments	15	(580,862)	-	(580,862)	724,618
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds		(414,468)	34,500	(379,968)	565,447
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward from previous year		12,934,114	20,250	12,954,366	12,388,919
Total funds carried forward		12,519,646	54,750	12,574,396	12,954,366

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the period. All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

The notes on pages 23-39 form part of these financial statements.

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID

**CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET
AT 31ST MARCH 2023**

		Group		Charity	
	Notes	2023 £	2022 £	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed Assets					
Tangible assets	13	1,445,896	1,251,721	1,445,896	1,251,721
Intangible assets	14	38,082	49,689	38,082	49,689
Investments	15	9,583,054	9,902,993	9,593,054	9,912,993
Total fixed assets		11,067,032	11,204,403	11,077,032	11,214,403
Current Assets					
Debtors	16	6,098,408	3,870,486	1,029,344	389,317
Cash at bank and in hand	17	4,869,375	4,011,005	2,179,762	929,774
Total current assets		10,967,783	7,881,491	3,209,106	1,319,091
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	18	(9,460,419)	(6,131,528)	(5,601,651)	(1,223,732)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		1,507,364	1,749,963	(2,392,545)	95,359
NET ASSETS		12,574,396	12,954,366	8,684,487	11,309,762

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID**FUNDS**

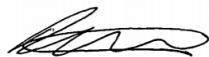
Unrestricted income fund	20	12,574,396	12,558,620	8,684,487	10,914,056
Designated fund	20	-	375,496	-	375,496
Restricted income fund	20	-	20,250	-	20,250
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>12,574,396</u>	<u>12,954,366</u>	<u>8,684,487</u>	<u>11,309,762</u>

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with provisions applicable to companies' subject to the small companies regime within part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on the 14th November 2023 and signed on their behalf by:



Ruston Smith, Chair, GroceryAid Trustees



David Wheeler, Treasurer GroceryAid

Charity Number 1095897

Company Number: 04620683

**CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

		2023	2022
	Note	£	£
NET CASH USED IN OPERATING ACTIVITIES	23	1,115,062	1,703,345
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Dividends, Interest and Rents for Investment		275,053	239,497
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(264,623)	(178,967)
Purchase of intangible assets		(6,199)	(17,180)
Proceeds from the sale of investments		-	228,000
Purchase of investments		(260,923)	(231,031)
Net cash provided by investing activities		(256,692)	40,319
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		858,370	(1,663,027)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		4,011,005	5,674,032
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	24	4,869,375	4,011,005

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2023

1. Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies of the charity are as follows:

a) **General information**

The charity is a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is 2 Lakeside Business Park, Swan Lane, Sandhurst, Berkshire, GU47 9DN.

b) **Statement of compliance and basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), and the Companies Act 2006.

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, except for investments which are included at fair value.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102, and has taken regard of the charity commissions guidance on public benefit, including 'Public Benefit: running a charity (PB2).

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity, and are rounded to the nearest £.

c) **Going Concern**

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis which assumes that the company will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

For the first year since the year ending 31 March 2020, the Charity was able to run every event in the planned calendar without any Covid-19 restrictions or cancellations.

The Trustees have assessed the principal risks and formulated a suitable reserves policy as stated above. A number of scenarios have been modelled based on different income and demand assumptions. Based on the results of these models and the level of reserves, the Trustees are satisfied that GroceryAid, the charitable company, will be able to continue its operations and meet its liabilities as they fall due for at least twelve months from the date of approval of the financial statements. The charitable company therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

d) **Method of consolidation**

The financial statements consolidate the results and position of the subsidiary undertaking (see note 3) and all of the Charity's branches on a line-by-line basis in both the Statement of Financial Activities (including income and expenditure account) and the Balance Sheet.

e) **Incoming resources**

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement, it is probable that the amount will be received, and it can be measured reliably as follows:

Voluntary income

Income from donations is accounted for on a receipt.

Grant income

Grants are recognised when any conditions for entitlement are met. Grants received before the conditions for entitlement have been met are deferred and included in creditors at the year end.

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2023

Legacies

Income from legacies is accounted for on a receivable basis being included at the earliest of the date of receipt or at the point which notification is received, provided that there is sufficient evidence to provide the necessary probability that the legacy will be received.

Central and branch fundraising

Income from fundraising is accounted for on a receivable basis. Income associated with a particular event is reported only upon that event having taken place, with income received in advance of events being treated as deferred income.

Investment income

Income from investments is accounted for on a receivable basis.

Gifts in Kind and Donated Services

Items donated to the charity to assist with particular fundraising events are recognised in the financial statements at market value as income to and resources expended against the respective activities. The donation of services to the charity is similarly recognised within the financial statements by the inclusion of a charge to expenditure and a corresponding credit to income, based on the estimated market value.

f) **Resources expended**

Resources expended are accounted for on an accruals basis. The inclusion of costs within the various categories of expenditure was made on the following basis:

Costs of raising funds

This category is used to record any costs which are associated with the cost of raising funds from whatever source and will include costs incurred in attracting donations and sponsorship.

Investment management fees

The cost of managing the Charity's investment funds is not charged separately by the investment managers but is instead effectively recovered by way of a deduction from the funds.

Charitable activities

This category is used to record expenditure incurred in fulfilling the Charity's objectives: it includes the payment of monetary grants to beneficiaries, expenditure made in providing beneficiaries with goods and services, and the costs of distributing and administering such direct charitable provision. The cost of such provision, and that in respect of monetary grants in particular, is recognised when award of the grant has been communicated to the beneficiary. Grants are awarded on an annual basis and are subject to annual review.

Governance

This category comprises costs incurred in the general management of the Charity, as distinct from that concerned directly with the conduct of the Charity's operational activities, and includes those costs associated with ensuring that the Charity complies with applicable laws and regulations, to include the preparation of information required for public accountability.

Allocation and apportionment of costs

Expenditure is classified according to the above headings that aggregate all costs related to those categories, whether they be directly attributable or apportioned as such. The bases of the apportionment of costs are consistent with the use of the staff resources under each heading.

g) **Creditors**

Creditors are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2023

h) **Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported for assets and liabilities as at the balance sheet date and the amounts reported for income and expenditure during the year. However, the nature of estimation means that actual outcomes could differ from those estimates.

The key assumptions involving estimation uncertainty at the balance sheet date that have a risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets or liabilities within the next financial year are as follows:

Useful life of Tangible and Intangible fixed assets

Both Tangible and Intangible fixed assets are depreciated over their useful lives. The actual lives of the asset and residual values are assessed annually and may vary depending on a number of factors. The useful life is set depending upon asset class. The Trustees believe this is an appropriate methodology for valuing these fixed assets.

i) **Tangible fixed assets**

Tangible fixed assets are depreciated over their useful lives taking into account residual values, where appropriate. The actual lives of the asset and residual values are assessed annually and may vary depending on a number of factors. Residual value assessments consider issues such as the remaining life of the asset and projected disposal values.

All assets costing over £1,000 are capitalised subject to considerations as to the likely useful life of each item. Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost. Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets over their estimated useful lives by equal annual instalments at the following rates:

Improvements to freehold	2% per annum
Freehold buildings	1% per annum
Office equipment	20% per annum
Furniture fixtures and fittings	10% per annum

No depreciation is provided on freehold land.

j) **Intangible assets**

All assets costing over £1,000 are capitalised subject to considerations as to the likely useful life of each item. Intangible fixed assets are stated at cost. Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets over their estimated useful lives by equal annual instalments at the following rates:

Software	20% per annum
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k) **Financial instruments**

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the transaction price, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where it is recognised at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Current assets and current liabilities are measured at the cash or consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

l) **Investments**

Investments are a form of basic financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value as at the balance sheet date using the bid price. Gains and losses on the disposal and revaluation of investments are charged or credited to the

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2023

Statement of Financial Activities. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their opening carrying value or their purchase value if acquired subsequent to the first day of the financial year. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and their carrying value. Realised and unrealised investment gains and losses are combined in the statement of financial activities. The charity does not acquire put options, derivatives or other complex financial instruments.

m) **Fund accounting**

Funds held by the charity as unrestricted funds are free for the Trustees to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charitable objects as set out in the Charity's Reserves policy. Designated funds are those that have been set aside by Trustees for specific purposes. Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions imposed by the donors. At the year end, any restricted fund deficits can be eliminated by a transfer from unrestricted funds unless the Trustees are of the opinion that such deficits will be eliminated by future giving. There are no transfers out of restricted fund unless approval is given by the donors.

n) **Pension costs**

Pension contributions are charged in the financial statements as they become payable.

o) **Publicity**

Costs associated with the objective of raising awareness of the Charity and its profile, particularly within the grocery trade, are included under this sub-heading within Central Fundraising. This policy was adopted on the basis that increasing awareness of the Charity, particularly within the grocery industry, should enhance its relevance and influence and so, in turn, better enable it to raise funds through its various activities.

p) **Irrecoverable VAT**

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources expended for which it was incurred.

2. Results of the parent undertaking

The gross income and result of the parent charity excluding those of its subsidiary were as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Gross income	6,029,799	5,536,229
Net movement in funds	(1,674,610)	1,479,823

3. Subsidiary undertaking

The charity has a wholly owned trading subsidiary, GroceryAid Trading Limited, by virtue of the ownership of that company's entire share capital of 10,000 ordinary £1 shares, to which all voting rights are attached. The subsidiary is incorporated in the U.K., company registration number 02952403. GroceryAid Trading Limited may be used to operate certain activities that might be regarded as trading. The Trading Company's registered office is 2 Lakeside Business Park, Swan Lane, Sandhurst, GU47 9DN. The subsidiary donates its taxable profit to the National Grocers Benevolent Fund under the Gift Aid scheme. A summary of its trading results for the year to 31st March 2022 is shown below and accounts will be filed with the Registrar of Companies.

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Profit and Loss Account - Summary	2023	2022
	£	£
Turnover	10,988,891	7,184,325
Net Profit/(Loss) and Retained Reserves	3,770,993	1,966,727

The subsidiary's net assets were comprised as follows:

Debtors	8,811,858	3,594,605
Cash at Bank	2,689,614	3,081,231
Creditors	(7,601,562)	(5,021,232)
Net Assets/(Liabilities)	3,899,910	1,654,604

4. Voluntary Income – Donations and Legacies

	2023	2022
	£	£
Donations - unrestricted	1,655,561	1,413,513
Voluntary Income – restricted:		
Grant from Leverhulme Trade Charities Trust	466,000	746,666
Funds for retailer hardship fund	125,000	100,000
TOTAL	2,246,561	2,260,179

In accordance with FRS 102 and the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the economic contribution of general volunteers is not recognised in the accounts.

5. Fundraising – all Unrestricted

Central fundraising	2023		
	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Surplus</u>
Central fundraising - unrestricted	10,856,966	(5,754,362)	5,102,604
Allocated support costs	-	(1,895,834)	(1,895,834)
PR Marketing	-	(97,767)	(97,767)
Total current central fundraising	10,856,966	(7,747,963)	3,109,003
Gifts in Kind	1,000,885	(1,000,885)	-
Total	11,857,851	(8,748,848)	3,109,003

Central fundraising	2022		
	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Surplus</u>
Central fundraising - unrestricted	8,683,550	(4,595,016)	4,088,534

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Allocated support costs		(1,549,762)	(1,549,762)
PR Marketing	35,910	(35,910)	-
Total current central fundraising	8,719,460	(6,180,688)	2,538,772
Gifts in Kind	563,042	(563,042)	-
Total	9,282,502	(6,743,730)	2,538,772

PR Marketing costs includes the estimated value of discounted advertisements placed in various trade publications of £91,284 (2022: ££35,910) and related development work. This support is to help raise the awareness of the work of the charity and its fundraising efforts.

6. Branch fundraising

	Income	2023 Expenses	Surplus	2022 Surplus
	£	£	£	£
Total Branch Fundraising	227,009	(95,353)	131.656	177,174

Gifts in Kind are included in the individual branch fundraising income and expenses above amounting to £nil in total (2022£nil)

7. Investment income

	2023 Unrestricted Funds	2023 Total Funds	2022 Total Funds
	£	£	£
Dividend and other investment income	274,538	274,538	238,814
Bank deposit interest receivable	515	515	20
Other investment income	-	-	228,663
Total Investment Income	275,053	275,053	467,497

8. Charitable expenditure

2023	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£
Monetary Grants	2,143,796	421,404	2,565,200
Provision of goods and services	1,452,036	135,096	1,587,132
Allocated support costs	1,409,048	-	1,409,048
Total	5,004,880	556,500	5,561,380

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2023

2022

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
Monetary Grants	2,501,340	736,138	3,237,478
Provision of goods and services	1,192,593	115,778	1,308,371
Allocated support costs	1,053,925	-	1,053,925
Total	4,747,858	851,916	5,599,774

The grants paid to individuals are to relieve financial hardship in accordance with the objects of the Charity. The provision of goods and services includes one-off crisis payments, provision of basic essentials, helpline facilities, respite and other goods and services in furtherance of the charity's objects.

9. Governance costs

	2023 £	2022 £
Audit – Current year	24,097	28,127
Audit – Relating to Prior year	-	-
Meetings	82	36
Legal advice	155,422	78,256
Trustees' expenses	-	887
Trustees' indemnity insurance	5,218	6,372
	184,819	113,678

10. Other Expenses

	2023 £	2022 £
Legal advice	-	-
Release of other creditor	-	-
Prior year	-	3,020
	-	3,020

11. Support Costs

2023	Central Fundraising £	Charitable Activities £	Governance £	Total
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NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2023

Staff related costs	1,580,522	785,821	222,716	2,589,059
Direct costs (note 9)	-	-	184,819	184,819
Overheads	373,842	184,179	31,512	589,533
Governance costs	-	439,047	(439,047)	-
Total allocation	1,954,364	1,409,047	-	3,363,411

2022	Central Fundraising £	Charitable Activities £	Governance £	Total
Staff related costs	1,236,533	633,528	143,484	2,013,545
Direct costs (note 9)	-	-	113,678	113,678
Overheads	294,225	143,385	19,850	457,460
Governance costs	-	277,012	(277,012)	-
Total allocation	1,530,758	1,053,925	-	2,543,683

The costs shown above are not specific to any one activity and have been allocated on the basis of a judgement as to the proportion of time spent on each of the activities.

12. Staff costs

	2023 £	2022 £
Salaries	1,892,259	1,544,389
Termination payments	27,350	-
Temp Staff	55,168	52,741
Employer's National Insurance	210,664	166,054
Pension contributions	212,603	121,087
Health insurance	22,282	12,040
	2,420,326	1,896,311

The average monthly head count was 41 staff (2022: 36 Staff) and the average monthly number of employees (including casual and part-time staff) during the year was as follows:

	2023	2022
Charitable welfare	15.3	14.4
Fundraising	23.9	19.9
Governance	2.2	1.7
Average Headcount	41.4	36.0

7 out of the total of 41 employees at the year-end are part-time (2022: 8 out of 36 employees). There were 6 employees (2022: 4 employees) with emoluments above £60,000 per annum.

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The number of senior post holders and other staff who receive emoluments, excluding pension contributions but including benefits in kind, in the following ranges were:

	2023	2022
£60,000 to £69,999	1	-
£70,000 to £79,999	1	-
£80,000 to £89,999	-	1
£90,000 to £99,999	1	1
£100,000 to £109,999	1	1
£110,000 to £119,999	1	-
£120,000 to £129,999	-	-
£130,000+	1	1

(ii) The pension arrangements operated by the charity are for all members of staff and provide benefits on a defined contribution basis. Contributions paid in accordance with the rules of the scheme are charged to the statement of financial activities as they become payable. The cost for the year was £212,603 (2022: £121,087) and there were no outstanding or prepaid contributions at the balance sheet date.

(iii) The charity holds an investment bond, valued in the accounts at £427 (2022: £945), which is used to supplement the pension of a former Director General.

(iv) Funds belonging to the Charity have been used for the purchase of insurance to indemnify the Trustees against the consequences of any neglect or default on their part. The cost recognised for the year in providing that insurance was £5,218 (2022: £6,372).

(v) The key management personnel of the charity comprise the Trustees, Chief Executive, Fundraising Director, Welfare Director and Finance Director & Company Secretary. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £647,383 (2022: £510,993).

(vi) During the period, termination payments were made to one individual (2022: nil)

13. Tangible assets

	Freehold land and buildings £	Office Equipment £	Furniture, fixtures and fittings £	Total £
<u>Cost:</u>				
Brought forward	1,312,288	125,333	38,789	1,476,410
Additions	242,730	21,893	-	264,623
Disposals	-	(37,691)	(5,876)	(43,567)
Carried forward	1,555,018	109,535	32,913	1,697,466
<u>Depreciation</u>				
Brought forward	151,295	61,746	11,647	224,688
Charge for year	43,197	20,618	3,146	66,961
Disposals	-	(34,202)	(5,877)	(40,079)
Carried forward	194,492	48,162	8,916	251,570

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Net book value carried forward	1,360,526	61,373	23,997	1,445,896
Net book value brought forward	1,160,993	63,587	27,142	1,251,722

All of the Charity group's fixed assets were held for functional charity use and all assets are used in the running and administration of the Charity.

14. Intangible assets

	Website £	Software £	Total £
<u>Cost:</u>			
Brought forward	39,176	145,062	184,238
Additions	6,200	-	6,200
Disposals	-	-	-
Carried forward	45,376	145,062	190,438
<u>Depreciation</u>			
Brought forward	13,021	121,528	134,549
Charge for year	8,765	9,042	17,807
Disposals	-	-	-
Carried forward	21,786	130,570	152,356
Net book value carried forward	23,590	14,492	38,082
Net book value brought forward	26,155	23,534	49,689

15. Investments

	Group		Charity	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
<u>Analysis of Movement of Investments</u>				
Market value at beginning of year	9,912,993	8,957,345	9,912,993	8,957,345
Additions to investments at cost	260,923	231,030	260,923	231,030
Disposals at market value	-	-	-	-
Net gain/(loss) on revaluation	(580,862)	724,618	(580,862)	724,618
Market value at end of year	9,593,054	9,912,993	9,593,054	9,912,993
<u>Investments held</u>				
Listed investments	9,583,054	9,902,993	9,583,054	9,902,993
Investments in subsidiary undertakings	-	-	10,000	10,000
Total investments held	9,583,054	9,902,993	9,593,054	9,912,993

Unrestricted fund investments consist of a portfolio of listed investments managed on the charity's behalf by professional fund managers. The following investments make up more than 5% of the total investment portfolio:

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2023

	% of total	Market Value
BNY Mellon Global Income Fund Newton Inst Shares 1	17%	£1,608,453
Newton Growth and Income Fund for Charities Inc Class	30%	£2,892,541
Rathbones Core Investment Fund for Charities	39%	£3,711,033
CCLA COIF Charities Property Fund	14%	£1,368,057

16. Debtors

	Group		Charity	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
Current:				
Trade debtors	4,032,275	2,279,639	797,859	77,175
Amounts due from subsidiary undertaking			-	113,439
Other debtors	1,836,148	1,333,029	1,500	1,500
Prepayments	134,652	141,517	134,652	80,901
Accrued income	87,222	108,190	87,222	108,191
	6,090,297	3,862,375	1,021,233	381,206
 Loans receivable secured on property	 8,111	 8,111	 8,111	 8,111
	6,098,408	3,870,486	1,029,344	389,317

17. Cash at bank and in hand

	Group		Charity	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Head office bank current account	1,925,933	925,429	1,925,934	925,429
Head office deposit accounts	251,925	74	251,925	74
Trading Co bank account	2,689,614	3,081,231	-	-
Branch bank accounts *	1,903	4,271	1,903	4,271
	4,869,375	4,011,005	2,179,762	929,774

*Deposit account in Northern Ireland only.

18. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Group		Charity	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Trade creditors	(987,378)	(1,091,151)	(124,545)	(176,211)

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Other creditors	(7,006,922)	(667,526)	(791,983)	(667,526)
Accruals	(105,500)	(196,822)	(60,929)	(155,546)
Deferred income	(1,360,619)	(4,176,029)	(881,400)	(224,449)
Amounts due to subsidiary undertaking	-	-	(3,742,794)	-
	(9,460,419)	(6,131,528)	(5,601,651)	(1,223,732)

Movement on deferred income balances was as follows:

Balance brought forward	(4,176,029)	(1,032,172)	(375,799)	(744,217)
Released to statement of financial activities	4,176,029	1,032,172	375,799	744,217
Fund raising proceeds received	(1,360,619)	(4,176,029)	(881,400)	(375,799)
Balance carried forward	(1,360,619)	(4,176,029)	(881,400)	(375,799)

19. Commitments under operating lease

	2023	2022
	£	£
Office equipment		
Amounts to be paid		
Within 1 year	3,577	8,625
Between 2 - 5 Years	5,864	17,269
Over 5 Years	-	-
	9,441	25,894

Operating lease costs in the year ending 31st March 2023, were £5,850. (2022: £5,748)

20. Funds

At the balance sheet date restricted funds were represented by current assets with the balance of the Charity's assets and liabilities were representing the unrestricted funds.

The Designated Funds represent two funds:

- 1) The balance of funds designated by the Trustees to offer enhanced mental health support, bereavement grants and crisis grants for grocery people directly afflicted by Covid-19
- 2) The gross funds received by the sale of the property were designated by the Trustees to be used for the refurbishment of the Sandhurst office. As at the end of FY23, there were no unspent funds in either of these categories.

The Restricted Funds comprise:

- 1) The unspent funds received from a retailer for a hardship fund administered by the charity for their employees only.
- 2) The Leverhulme Trade Charities Trust grant received during the year, which can only be used for certain categories of our beneficiaries. During 2022, the Leverhulme Trade Charities Trust also converted the fund it had available for the support of critical incidents to a one-off donation for the purposes of School Essential Grants. As at the end of FY23, there were no unspent funds in either of these categories.

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2023

GROUP	Brought forward	Income	Expenditure	Gains/ (losses)	Transfers	Carried forward
Year to 31 March 2023						
General funds						
Unrestricted fund	12,558,620	14,015,475	(13,725,749)	(580,862)	306,912	12,574,396
Designated funds – Covid 19	278,590	-	(123,332)	-	(155,258)	-
Designated funds – office refurb	96,904	-	-	-	(96,904)	-
Total general funds	12,934,114	14,015,475	(13,849,081)	(580,862)	54,750	12,574,396
Restricted funds						
Leverhulme Trade Charities Trust	-	466,000	(466,000)	-	-	-
Retailer hardship fund	20,250	125,000	(90,500)	-	(54,750)	-
Total restricted funds	20,250	591,000	(556,500)	-	(54,750)	-
Total funds	12,954,366	14,606,475	(14,405,581)	(580,862)	-	12,574,396

CHARITY	Brought forward	Income	Expenditure	Gains/ (losses)	Transfers	Carried forward
Year to 31 March 2023						
General funds						
Unrestricted fund	10,914,016	5,438,799	(7,394,379)	(580,862)	306,912	8,684,487
Designated funds – Covid 19	278,590	-	(123,332)	-	(155,258)	-
Designated funds – office refurb	96,904	-	-	-	(96,904)	-
Total general funds	11,289,510	5,438,799	(7,517,711)	(580,862)	54,750	8,684,487
Restricted funds						
Leverhulme Trade Charities Trust	-	466,000	(466,000)	-	-	-
Retailer hardship fund	20,250	125,000	(90,500)	-	(54,750)	-
Total restricted funds	20,250	591,000	(556,500)	-	(54,750)	-
Total funds	11,309,761	6,029,799	(8,074,211)	(580,862)	-	8,684,487

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2023

GROUP & CHARITY	Brought forward	Income	Expenditure	Gains/ (losses)	Transfers	Carried forward
Year to 31 March 2022						
General funds						
Unrestricted fund	11,470,288	11,152,647	(10,920,027)	724,617	131,096	12,558,621
Designated funds – Covid 19	893,131	-	(614,541)	-		278,590
Designated funds – office refurb	-	228,000	-	-	(131,096)	96,904
Total general funds	12,363,419	11,380,647	(11,534,568)	724,617	-	12,934,114
Restricted funds						
Leverhulme Trade Charities Trust	-	746,666	(746,666)	-	-	0
Retailer hardship fund	25,500	100,000	(105,250)	-	-	20,250
Total restricted funds	25,500	846,666	(851,916)	-	-	20,250
Total funds	12,388,919	12,227,313	(12,386,484)	724,617	-	12,954,365

During the year ending 31st March 2022, a property that had been owned by the Charity was sold for £228,000. The funds, net of fees was set aside as a designated fund to be used for the refurbishment of the Sandhurst Head office.

21. Net assets

2023 Consolidated Group	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	1,445,896	-	1,445,896
Intangible fixed assets	38,082	-	38,082
Investments	9,583,054	-	9,583,054
Current assets	10,913,033	54,750	10,967,783
Current liabilities	((9,460,419))	-	((9,460,419))
Total	12,519,646	54,750	12,574,396
2023 Charity	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	1,445,896	-	1,445,896
Intangible fixed assets	38,082	-	38,082
Investments	9,593,054	-	9,593,054
Current assets	3,154,355	54,750	3,209,105
Current liabilities	(5,601,650)	-	(5,601,650)
Total	8,629,737	54,750	8,684,487

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2023

2022 Consolidated Group	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	1,251,721	-	1,251,721
Intangible fixed assets	49,689	-	49,689
Investments	9,902,993	-	9,902,993
Current assets	7,861,241	20,250	7,881,491
Current liabilities	(6,131,528)	-	(6,131,528)
Total	12,934,116	20,250	12,954,366

2022 Charity	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	1,251,721	-	1,251,721
Intangible fixed assets	49,689	-	49,689
Investments	9,912,993	-	9,912,993
Current assets	1,298,841	20,250	1,319,091
Current liabilities	(1,223,732)	-	(1,223,732)
Total	11,289,512	20,250	11,309,762

22. Legal status of the Charity

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of a winding up is limited to £1.

23. Reconciliation of Net Incoming Resources to Net Cash (Outflow)/Inflow from Operating Activities

	2023	2022
	£	£
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period	(379,968)	565,446
Income from investments	(274,538)	(467,476)
Interest receivable	(515)	(20)
(Gains)/losses on investments	(580,862)	(724,617)
Depreciation & Amortisation	84,768	49,131
Loss (Profit) on sale of fixed assets	3,487	16,840
(Increase)/Decrease in debtors	(2,227,924)	(2,032,531)
Increase/(Decrease) in creditors	3,328,891	889,882
Net cash (outflow)/inflow from operating activities	(1,115,062)	(1,703,345)

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2023

24. Reconciliation of Net cash Flow Movement in Net Funds

	2023	2022
	£	£
Increase/(decrease) in cash in the period	858,370	(1,663,027)
Change in net funds	858,370	(1,663,027)
Net funds at 1 April	4,011,005	5,674,032
Net funds at 31 March	4,869,375	4,011,005

25. Analysis of changes in Net Funds

	1-Apr-2022	Cash flows	31-Mar-2023
	£	£	£
Cash at bank	4,011,005	858,370	4,869,375

26. Related party transactions

During the year ending 31st March 2023, there were no related party transactions (2022: nil).

27. Parent company Statement of Financial Activity

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
Income from:				
Donations and legacies	3,181,249	591,000	3,772,249	2,260,179
Central fundraising	1,755,488	-	1,755,488	2,591,418
Branch fundraising	227,009	-	227,009	217,135
Investment Income	275,053	-	275,053	467,497
Total Income	5,438,799	591,000	6,029,799	5,536,229
Expenditure on:				
Cost of generating funds				
Central fundraising	32,417,478	-	32,417,478	2,019,373
Branch fundraising	95,353	-	95,353	39,961
Charitable activities				
Grants	3,130,130	421,404	3,551,534	3,975,225
Goods and services	1,874,750	135,096	2,009,846	1,624,549
Other Expenses	-	-	-	3,020

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2023

Total Expenditure	7,517,711	556,500	8,074,211	7,622,127
Net gains/(losses) on investments	(580,862)	-	(580,862)	724,617
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds	(2,659,774)	34,500	(2,625,274)	(1,401,282)
Reconciliation of funds:				
Total funds brought forward from previous year	11,289,511	20,250	11,309,761	12,711,043
Total funds carried forward	8,629,737	54,750	8,684,487	11,309,761

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND

England & Wales - Charity number 1095897

Accounts

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID

**A Company Limited by Guarantee
Registered Charity**

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31st MARCH 2022

**Registered Charity Number 1095897 (England & Wales) SC039255 (Scotland)
Company Registered in England and Wales Number 04620683**

Registered Office and Principal Address:

**2 Lakeside Business Park,
Swan Lane,
Sandhurst, Berkshire
GU47 9DN**

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2022

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LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Directors and Trustees

The directors of the charitable company ("the Charity") are its Trustees for the purposes of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the Trustees. An explanation of the method of appointment of Trustees is provided in the Trustees' Report.

The Trustees serving during the year and at the time the accounts were signed were:

R H Bartlett	
B W Dalla Mura	
L D Hendle	
M McKenzie	
H E Murray	
D Pervez	
M P Smith	
R A M Smith	Chair
L A Stigant	
H M Tatum	(Appointed 11/05/2021)
H M Tucker	
J C Uttley	
D C Wheeler	Treasurer
M R Williamson	

Life Patrons	Lord Price CVO; Mike Coupe; Paul Monk
President	Allan Leighton
Chief Executive	Steve Barnes
Company Secretary	Catherine Robinson-McCormick
Registered Office	2 Lakeside Business Park, Swan Lane, Sandhurst, Berkshire GU47 9DN
Website	www.groceryaid.org.uk
Email	info@groceryaid.org.uk
Independent Auditors	Moore Kingston Smith LLP, 9 Appold Street, London, EC2A 2AP
Bankers	Lloyds Bank, 24 Broad Street, Reading, Berkshire, RG1 2BT
Investment providers	CCLA Investment Management Limited, London Newton Investment Management Limited, London Rathbone Brothers Plc, London

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

CHAIR'S STATEMENT

The trade continues to navigate its way through the most challenging of times: the impact of Covid-19, ongoing impact of Brexit, lorry driver shortages, spiraling fuel costs and the cost-of-living crisis.

GroceryAid continues to support trade colleagues thanks to the generosity of the Charity's supporters.

Supporting Industry Colleagues

The Charity continues to develop in lockstep with the trade, listening to companies and providing relevant support to ensure our welfare offer provides the best service to meet changing needs.

During the year to 31st March 2021, the Trustees designated £1.5m to offer enhanced mental health support, bereavement grants and crisis grants for grocery colleagues directly affected by the pandemic. The Covid-19 fund continued to support colleagues through the year to 31st March 2022. Covid-19 specific support is still required by colleagues and continues to be available.

The School Essentials Grant programme ran for a second year. The fund was significantly expanded to help 3,609 children to start their new school years properly equipped. The additional support was provided by the Leverhulme Trade Charities Trust for which we are grateful. The fund has been further extended for the current financial year.

In January 2022, in response to spiraling fuel costs, the Charity ran a Winter Heating Grant for anyone working in the trade who met the criteria.

We are about to enter the third year of a partnership with our Helpline provider. We work closely with the team to ensure a 'best in class' service. Our free, confidential Helpline is available 24/7 365 days a year and provides in the moment emotional support to current and former grocery industry colleagues and their partner/spouse and dependents from BACP accredited counsellors, as well as offering structured counselling either in person, web based or telephone. In addition, the Citizen Advice Bureau trained Telephone Information Specialists are money and debt trained and benefits trained and can support with practical advice and guidance on money, legal, child and elder care queries. Both services signpost to other support available in the GroceryAid suite of services through our Partner organisations and website. The partnership is working well with GroceryAid being described as its most progressive client and the most receptive to innovation.

During the year we launched our Financial Wellbeing platform in partnership with Money Helper to provide impartial advice and help for colleagues. We continue to encounter high levels of online gambling and have established a partnership with GamCare to provide support for any colleagues impacted by gambling.

We expect continued growth in demand for GroceryAid support as we drive further awareness of how the Charity supports colleagues throughout the trade.

Reaching Out and Raising Awareness

Over the past year, we further accelerated our move away from traditional advertising campaigns to connect with industry colleagues more effectively. We concentrated on social media and digital channels to raise awareness and we are pleased with the progress made. We post on various channels regularly to target audiences achieving industry leading levels of engagement.

We have now embedded GA Engage in the trade. This is a quarterly webinar for HR and Communications professionals which provides updates on our latest welfare and marketing initiatives so these can be shared internally within companies. We also provide monthly communications toolkits for companies to drive awareness of the support the charity can offer throughout the trade.

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We continue to produce short films to emotionally engage with our supporters with Ricky's Story through beneficiaries' eyes (launched in November 2021), to clearly demonstrate the impact our support can have which is proving to be our most successful and appreciated film produced to date.

We continue to make good progress on raising awareness which remains a key priority for GroceryAid - where we will continue to innovate to find new ways to communicate with colleagues throughout the trade.

Return to Events

We were delighted to be able to return to the running of large-scale fundraising events during the year. We started the financial year in lock-down and so re-arranged the full calendar of events (except the Windermere Row) to run exclusively in the second half. It was challenging for the events team and the industry to support so many events in such a short space of time, but colleagues and supporters stepped up to ensure all the events delivered above expectation for which we are very grateful.

Fundraising

We exceeded our fundraising targets for the year. This was despite the re-arrangement of all fundraising events to the second half and a last-minute cancellation of an event due to the rapid emergence of Omicron variant in the days leading up to the event.

We broke records on many events with the numbers attending and the funds raised. A key highlight was the relocation of our Barcode Festival to a significantly larger venue, Magazine, next to the O2 in Greenwich, London. This ran in September 2021 with over 3,500 tickets sold plus 70 sponsors on site and is poised for significant future growth. It has introduced the Charity to a whole new demographic and has quickly become the 'must attend' event for thousands of colleagues.

Our branch network, whose fundraising activities were significantly curtailed during FY21 were able to run events in the latter part of the year. The Midlands branch closed in March 2022 and we are very grateful to Jo Roffey and her committee for all they have achieved in the Midlands over many years.

We continue to have five regional fundraising branches – the south-west, north, north-east, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

We continue to have five regional fundraising branches – the south-west, north, north-east, Scotland and Northern Ireland. I believe these are the right geographies for volunteers to run fundraising events.

Overall, allowing for an increase in the value of our reserves over the year, our overall result was a surplus of £0.6M whilst, within this, we had a small operational deficit during the year driven by our ongoing support for colleagues.

We increased our support from trusts and foundations that have their roots in the grocery industry to help those in need. We were delighted with the backing we received from the Leverhulme Trade Charities Trust which enabled us to more than double the value of our School Essentials Grant.

We are mindful that the ramifications of Covid-19 on colleagues will not be confined to the last two financial years. This will be combined with the challenges the industry faces with the current cost of living crisis. As a result, we anticipate continued increased levels of support will be required for colleagues throughout the current financial year which we and our team are here to support.

Diversity and Inclusion in Grocery

Since September 2020, the Charity has taken on the delivery of the Diversity and Inclusion in Grocery (DIG) annual programme. The content for this ground-breaking programme is generated by the trade and we are delighted that so many organisations now actively participate as programme partners. We currently have 75 partners - a trebling in the number since January 2021. We are delighted that so many organisations are actively involved as we continue to run three streams of activity led by GroceryAid and delivered by the trade:

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- Shared learning: Monthly virtual Learning Labs hosted by leading advocates in the trade. Access to understand what other organisations are doing in this space and opportunities to make connections, get advice and share success through a dedicated online portal.
- Mentoring: Supporting talented colleagues to fulfil their potential through cross-industry mentoring – over 325 colleagues currently participate in DIG mentoring.
- DIG Live!: A day like no other, designed by the industry for the industry with one key goal – to make diversity everyone's business. This will be attended by over 1,500 colleagues.

Commemorative Event

In October 2021, GroceryAid brought together over 300 industry leaders to reflect on the impact of Covid-19 on the grocery trade. The event was not a fundraising event as tickets were invitation only and not for sale.

President

Charles Wilson retired as President of GroceryAid at the end of 2021 and was succeeded by Allan Leighton. We could not have wished for a better President to lead us through a global pandemic and the entire trade is hugely grateful for all Charles accomplished in his two-year presidency. We are delighted that Allan is now our President given his standing in the trade – Allan's enthusiasm and energy is continuing to drive us forward.

Our Trustee Board

As stated in the previous year's report, in April 2021, a long-standing Trustee, Ian Gordon retired. Hayley Tatum, Chief People and Corporate Affairs Officer at Asda, was appointed to the Board in May 2021. There have been no other changes to the Trustee Board.

We remain grateful for the time and expertise that the Trustees continue to contribute towards the success of the organisation.

We have continued to strengthen the governance of the Trading Company as most of our events run through this entity. Derek Lawlor is Chair of GroceryAid Trading and is doing a strategic review of the subsidiary to ensure it is fit for the future after a period of rapid growth.

Our People, Our Volunteers, Our Supporters

I am delighted that we were able to record over 28,000 incidences of support for industry colleagues when they needed us last year.

I am so grateful, to so many, that we had such a successful year in such a challenging time – which will allow us to continue to help those in need in the future.

I am incredibly proud of the GroceryAid team along with our wonderful group of volunteers, who stretch themselves to do incredible things for grocery people in need. I am also humbled by the feedback we receive from beneficiaries which inspires us to work even harder on their behalf.

I would like to end by once again thanking our supporters for their generosity in supporting industry colleagues in need during another challenging year.



Ruston Smith
Chair of GroceryAid Trustees

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2022

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The National Grocers Benevolent Fund, trading as GroceryAid, is a registered charity in England and Wales (registration number 1095897) and Scotland (registration number SC039255) and is constituted as a company limited by guarantee (registration number 04620683).

The charity is run by 14 serving Trustees who are also directors and members of the limited company. In that capacity they select new members of the Board of Trustees.

Trustees are responsible for compliance with our legal and statutory requirements and the safe and effective running of the charity. They meet every quarter to discuss and review both the day-to-day operations and the strategic direction of the charity. In addition, the Trustees also meet on an ad hoc basis when required. Steve Barnes, appointed by the Trustees as Chief Executive, manages the day-to-day operations of the charity. He reports to the quarterly Trustee meetings and contributes to the discussions in an advisory capacity. His senior direct reports are Mandi Leonard, Welfare Director, Jane Hill, Fundraising Director and Catherine Robinson-McCormick, Finance Director.

Remuneration for key management personnel is determined by a sub-committee of the Trustee Board - the Remuneration Committee. This committee has specific delegated responsibilities to:

- Set the remuneration policy for directors (salary, pension and benefits) in line with the approach taken for GroceryAid's employees
- Determine salary levels for directors considering:
 - Individual directors' capabilities and contribution;
 - Salary levels for comparable roles in organisations identified as suitable benchmarks;
 - Salary levels across GroceryAid; and
 - Overall appropriateness given charitable purpose, stakeholder perception and affordability.
- Be kept informed by the Chief Executive of any significant changes in the remuneration arrangements for GroceryAid's employees.

The objectives of our senior remuneration policy are:

- To be able recruit and retain individuals who will lead the successful delivery of our mission, and
- To reward them fairly taking account of their contribution, market levels and levels within GroceryAid.

The Remuneration Committee meets at least twice annually and is chaired by Hayley Tatum.

Various Trustees and industry colleagues sit on one or more of our five sub-committees covering welfare, welfare strategy, finance, fundraising and remuneration. These committees consider each of their areas, in depth, and report to the Trustee Board on key developments, risks, plans and initiatives. Formal terms of reference exist for these committees, and these are set out in the GroceryAid Policy Document, which is reviewed and updated annually. This document also contains various processes and procedures to ensure that we have appropriate controls in place for the effective and efficient operation of the charity.

From 2018, it was agreed that Trustees can serve for a three-year period and may be re-elected to serve for two further three-year periods. All GroceryAid Trustees have signed an 'Eligibility to Serve' declaration form, and a Declaration of Interest and Connected Persons form. The possible existence of conflicts of interest is considered prior to the start of every meeting of the Board of Trustees. The Declaration of Interest and Connected Persons forms are completed annually and are held on file at the GroceryAid offices.

New Trustees, as a qualification, must have worked or currently work in any area within the grocery industry. All nominations are approved by the Board of Trustees. All new Trustees have a formal induction that covers the role of the charity and what is expected of them in their role as GroceryAid Trustees. Governance requirements of both Trustees and Senior Management are incorporated into the GroceryAid Policy Manual which forms part of ongoing training and updates at Trustee meetings.

No Trustees are paid by the charity for their services.

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Charity law requires organisations to demonstrate explicitly that their aims are for public benefit. The charitable activities of GroceryAid are available to people in need who are, or have been, engaged in the grocery or provisions trade, greengrocers and the off-licence trade, in any capacity and for their surviving spouses, civil partners and dependent children. The Trustee Board have discussed the issue of public benefit and are confident that the breadth and scope of the work of the Charity, as disclosed in this Report, clearly falls within the guidelines set in Section 17 of the 2011 Charities Act.

OBJECTIVES & ACTIVITIES

The objectives of the charity are the provision of relief to persons in need, whether that be through ill health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage who:

- are or have been engaged in the grocery trade, in any capacity; or
- are the surviving spouse, civil partner or otherwise long-term partner or child (or other dependent or former dependent) of persons who have been engaged in the grocery trade

The term grocery trade means any work relating to the manufacturing, logistics, distribution or sales of groceries or other products typically sold in supermarkets, whether wholesale or retail. For the avoidance of doubt, this includes the off-licence trade.

Our vision is that everyone engaged in this trade can turn to us for help. Our long-term objectives are to work with the industry to identify and support those in need, to address social isolation through our Helpline and Carer's initiative and to enhance our income streams to further support our industry colleagues.

The key activities of the charity are providing emotional, practical and financial support to colleagues working in the grocery sector, who meet our eligibility criteria as agreed and regularly reviewed by the Trustees. This includes, but is not exclusive to:

- Non-repayable financial grants
- 24/7 freephone Helpline providing emotional and practical support
- Relationship counselling
- Legal advice
- Digital wellbeing support for adults and young people
- Online wellbeing platform
- Workplace critical incident support
- Managers support line
- Debt advice
- Online financial wellbeing
- Gambling addiction support

Emotional and practical support services are delivered in partnership with expert, third party organisations, to provide bespoke services to colleagues.

FUNDRAISING

The vast majority of the charity's income comes from the industry we work to support. This can be in the form of donations and/or by supporting regional and national fundraising events. The remainder is derived from the charity's investments.

GroceryAid fundraises through industry events organised by its branches and its central fundraising team who on occasion use the services of event management companies to assist in organising events. It also received donations during the year from other organisations which organised events for the industry.

No monies are raised by public collections. GroceryAid does not receive any support from either local or central government.

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GroceryAid is registered with the Fundraising Regulator and follows the fundraising code. GroceryAid has not received any complaints about its fundraising activities.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Demand for our welfare services has continue to grow through the year. We continue to support both our working colleagues and those who have retired from the trade.

During the year to 31st March 2022:

- GroceryAid spent £5.6M to support grocery colleagues coping with financial, emotional and physical hardship during the year ending 31st March 2022.
- There was a 157% increase in applications for GroceryAid funded support, helped by the success of the School Essentials Grant and Winter Heating Grant programmes. On our core financial support grants, there was like-for-like growth of 66% over the year.
- We provided 28,204 incidences of emotional, practical and financial support, an increase of 61% on the previous year due to increased awareness
- Calls to GroceryAid's Helpline were up by 17%. Our Helpline provides problem-solving information and emotional support to anybody working in the industry.
- Demand for our Relate counselling service increased by 98%, and over 1,000 colleagues download Woebot, a digitally advanced service available via an app for Iphone or Android. This artificial intelligence counsellor allows a user to access in the moment emotional support 24/7.
- For a fifth year running, our largest percentage of referrals came from companies in our industry rather than other charities – awareness of GroceryAid is growing where we need it.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Our operational annual deficit was £0.1M, which combined with a net gain on investments of £0.7M, resulted in an overall surplus of £0.6M, compared to an operational annual surplus of £2.0M in the prior year. The surplus in the year to 31st March 2021 was attributable to the high level of donations received by the Charity to support its work to help colleagues through the pandemic. As reported in the prior year annual report, it was anticipated that this support for colleagues would continue through FY22, resulting in an operational deficit. This has proven to be true and is reflected in the results for the year ending 31st March 2022.

Total income for the period amounted to £11.4M, an increase of £3.4M compared to the prior year and reflects the return to the running of fundraising events during the year.

Total costs of £11.5M were £5.6M higher than the previous year, and reflect increased welfare spend, combined with the costs incurred through the running of events again.

As at 31st March 2022, cash at bank and in hand was £4.0M, £1.7M lower than the prior year.

Principal Risks

Our Risk Management Policy seeks to identify any major risks to which the Charity may be exposed and that may affect the realisation of our goals.

Our short-term targets and long-term objectives are reviewed by the Trustee Board at our quarterly Trustee meetings. The Risk Assessment procedure is also regularly reviewed, and we can confirm systems are in place to mitigate those risks. This assessment forms part of our Policy Document which is updated and issued annually.

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The Trustees consider the key risks facing GroceryAid are:

- Income generated from donations and other fundraising activities is insufficient to meet the needs of our beneficiaries. We manage this through review and discussions at each Trustee meeting and through our Fundraising Committee, led by the President of GroceryAid, that has over 50 senior members from the industry who meet three times per year to review and discuss our fundraising efforts.
- An unforeseen rise in the demand for GroceryAid's services result in a significant increase in the applications for help and support. We manage this risk through our Welfare Committee, Finance Committee and the Trustee Board who continually review our financial position.
- Financial and reputational damage that could occur in the event of a cyberattack on the organization. Cybercrime continues to rise in scale and complexity. We manage this risk through regular staff training combined with external penetration and phishing exercises undertaken to determine any potential areas of weakness.

Reserves Policy

The aim of our Reserves Policy is to ensure the sustainability of the Charity.

The Trustees have reviewed the Reserves Policy of the Charity as set out in the GroceryAid Policy Document. Sustainability of the fund is paramount to our beneficiaries and the Trustees believe that a minimum level of £5M of reserves is sufficient to cover three years beneficiary payments and the infrastructure required to administer these payments in a number of stress tested scenarios. As at 31st March 2022, GroceryAid's free reserves were £10.3M.

Whilst this is above our target, we are mindful that the ramifications of the lasting impact of Covid-19 combined with the current cost of living challenges facing colleagues. We therefore expect elevated levels of support for colleagues will be required throughout the current financial year.

Furthermore, whilst the market value of investments did recover following the initial impact of the pandemic, recent fluctuations have occurred as the market reacts to the recent unfortunate events in the Ukraine.

Going Concern

The social distancing rules implemented in response to the Covid pandemic resulted in all events for the year to 31st March 2021 being cancelled. The continuation of government restrictions through Spring 2021 meant that the majority of FY22 events were moved to Autumn 2021, and almost all of these events were able to run. To date, the FY23 calendar of events has been unaffected by Covid-19 cancellations and demand for tickets is stronger than ever as the industry embraces opportunities to network in a face-to-face environment.

Careful cash management has ensured that that Charity has maintained a strong cash balance. Furthermore, over the last two years, the Charity has not needed to draw down on reserves.

The Trustees have assessed the principal risks and formulated a suitable reserves policy as stated above. A number of scenarios have been modelled based on different income and demand assumptions. Based on the results of these models and the level of reserves, the Trustees are satisfied that GroceryAid, the charitable organisation, has adequate resources to continue as a going concern.

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INVESTMENT POLICY AND PERFORMANCE

As at 31st March 2022, GroceryAid's investment fund was valued at £9,902,993.

This is held by the Charity to underpin the value of Reserves retained to ensure the Charity's sustainability. The Trustees objective is that the Reserves do not decrease in real value by aiming to achieve long-term capital growth ahead of inflation.

The Reserves are also key in the provision of income to help fund current expenditure. To meet these objectives the Trustee Board has set a target return of CPI +3% per year over a rolling five-year period. This is a target and the Trustees acknowledge that due to fluctuations in markets this may not always be possible.

The GroceryAid Finance Committee is a sub-committee of the Trustee board and meets quarterly to review financial controls within the charity, oversee investment performance and recommend changes to the investments as necessary. Our Investment Policy allows us to manage the money we raise and the money we need to have in reserve for unforeseen eventualities.

At 31st March 2022, 99% of the reserves were invested in four Common Investment Funds. These are: Newton Growth and Income Fund for Charities, Newton Global Higher Income Fund, Rathbone's Core Investment Fund for Charities and CCLA Charities Property Fund. The remaining 1% is held in cash deposits.

With regard to ethical investing, the Trustees continue to be satisfied that our investment managers invest responsibly, having regard to the Environment, Social and Governance consideration and our managers exercise our stewardship responsibilities in an appropriate way. Any investments that may hamper the work of the Charity will be avoided as will those deemed inappropriate on moral grounds to avoid reputational damage to the charity, which could in turn negatively impact on fundraising activities. Investments that would pose a risk of significant financial detriment will also be avoided.

SUBSIDIARY COMPANY

The Charity has a wholly owned trading subsidiary which is incorporated in the U.K., GroceryAid Trading Limited, company registration No. 2952403. The company undertakes certain fundraising activities to raise money for its parent company, the National Grocers Benevolent Fund. The company utilises resources from the parent company, which it pays for on an arms-length basis as resources are required.

The social distancing rules implemented in response to the covid pandemic resulted in all events for the year to 31st March 2021 being cancelled. The continuation of government restrictions through Spring 2021 meant that the Trading company moved the majority of its events to Autumn 2021, and almost all of these events were able to run. This brought the Trading company back to a positive net assets position.

The company generated a profit for the year of £1.97M and had net assets of £1.65M at the Balance Sheet date.

These would have been higher but for the need to cancel the Sainsbury's Big Bash at late notice in December 2021 due to the emergence of the Omicron strain of Covid-19. The costs of this were incurred by the trading company. Any donations in lieu of this event from supporters were made to the Charity.

The Charity will continue to use the Trading Company in future years and will continue to review whether certain fundraising activities are more appropriate for the Trading Company.

FUTURE PLANS

Strategy and Business Plan

Our priorities for 2022/23 to further our charitable objects and deliver public benefit are to:

- Raise over £7.0M (net) through fundraising

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- Return to a full programme of fundraising events
- Ensure the maximum proportion of every pound spent by companies supporting GroceryAid flows through to beneficiaries
- Continue to drive greater awareness of GroceryAid's services throughout our industry to reach out to more colleagues who need our support
- Deliver the Diversity and Inclusion in Grocery Programme, a programme created by the industry, for the industry in order to move the dial in D&I

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEE'S RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees (who are also the directors of National Grocers Benevolent Fund for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the group and charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the group for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- The Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

AUDITORS

A resolution will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting with regard to audit arrangements for the forthcoming financial year.

The charitable company has taken advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing this Trustees Report.

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BY ORDER OF THE TRUSTEES

Ruston Smith (Chair)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Ruston Smith', written over a faint, illegible stamp or watermark.

14th September 2022

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS AND TRUSTEES OF NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, TRADING AS GROCERYAID

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of National Grocers Benevolent Fund (the 'parent charitable company') and its subsidiaries (the 'group') for the year ended 31 March 2022 which comprise the Group Statement of Financial Activities, the Group and Parent Charitable Company Balance Sheets, the Group Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and the parent charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2022 and of the group's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the group's and parent charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or

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otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the [strategic report and the] trustees' annual report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees' annual report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and parent charitable company and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' annual report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the parent charitable company has not kept adequate and sufficient accounting records, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the parent charitable company's financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies exemption in preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and from preparing a strategic report.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the group and parent charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the group or parent charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under the Companies Act 2006 and section 151 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with those Acts.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID

from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK) we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purposes of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the group and parent charitable company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the trustees.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the group and parent charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the group or parent charitable company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the group to express an opinion on the consolidated financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the group audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit report.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Explanation as to what extent the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below.

The objectives of our audit in respect of fraud, are; to identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud; to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the assessed risks of material misstatement due to fraud, through designing and implementing appropriate responses to those assessed risks; and to respond appropriately to instances of fraud or suspected fraud identified during the audit. However, the primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of fraud rests with both management and those charged with governance of the charitable company.

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID

Our approach was as follows:

- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory requirements applicable to the charitable company and considered that the most significant are the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011, the Charity SORP, and UK financial reporting standards as issued by the Financial Reporting Council
- We obtained an understanding of how the charitable company complies with these requirements by discussions with management and those charged with governance.
- We assessed the risk of material misstatement of the financial statements, including the risk of material misstatement due to fraud and how it might occur, by holding discussions with management and those charged with governance.
- We inquired of management and those charged with governance as to any known instances of non-compliance or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- Based on this understanding, we designed specific appropriate audit procedures to identify instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. This included making enquiries of management and those charged with governance and obtaining additional corroborative evidence as required.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above. We are less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations that are not closely related to events and transactions reflected in the financial statements. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and, in respect of the consolidated financial statements, to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 8 of the Charities Act 2011. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members and trustees those matters which we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to any party other than the charitable company, the charitable company's members, as a body, and the charity's trustees, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinion we have formed.



Andrew Stickland (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Moore Kingston Smith LLP, Statutory Auditor

Date: 3 November 2022
9 Appold Street
London
EC2A 2AP

Moore Kingston Smith LLP is eligible to act as auditor in terms of Section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	4	1,413,513	846,666	2,260,179	5,149,487
Central fundraising	5	9,282,502	-	9,282,502	3,338,606
Branch fundraising	6	217,135	-	217,135	21,578
Investment Income	7	239,497	-	239,497	223,106
Other Income – gross gain on sale of property		228,000	-	228,000	-
Total Income		11,380,647	846,666	12,227,313	8,732,777
Expenditure on:					
Cost of raising funds					
Central fundraising	5	6,743,730	-	6,743,730	1,614,806
Branch fundraising	6	39,961	-	39,961	3,115
Charitable activities					
Grants	8	3,239,087	736,138	3,975,225	3,401,783
Goods and services	8	1,508,770	115,778	1,624,549	1,577,037
Other Expenses	10	3,020	-	3,019	67,109
Total Expenditure		11,534,568	851,916	12,386,484	6,665,050
Net gains/(losses) on investments	15	724,618	-	724,618	1,402,655
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds		570,697	(5,250)	565,447	3,470,382
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward from previous year		12,363,417	25,500	12,388,919	8,918,537
Total funds carried forward		12,934,114	20,250	12,954,366	12,388,919

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the period. All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

The notes on pages 22-38 form part of these financial statements.

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID

**CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET
AT 31ST MARCH 2022**

		Group		Charity	
	Notes	2022 £	2021 £	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed Assets					
Tangible assets	13	1,251,721	1,122,770	1,251,721	1,122,770
Intangible assets	14	49,689	48,465	49,689	48,465
Investments	15	9,902,993	8,947,345	9,912,993	8,957,345
Total fixed assets		11,204,403	10,118,580	11,214,403	10,128,580
Current Assets					
Debtors	16	3,870,484	1,928,303	389,317	257,760
Cash at bank and in hand	17	4,011,005	5,674,032	929,774	4,426,789
Total current assets		7,881,491	7,602,335	1,319,091	4,684,549
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	18	(6,131,528)	(5,331,996)	(1,223,732)	(2,102,086)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		1,749,961	2,270,339	95,359	2,582,463
NET ASSETS		12,954,366	12,388,919	11,309,762	12,711,043
FUNDS					
Unrestricted income fund	20	12,558,620	12,363,419	10,914,056	12,685,543
Designated fund	20	375,496	-	375,496	-

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID

Restricted income fund	20	20,250	25,500	20,250	25,500
TOTAL FUNDS		12,954,366	12,388,919	11,309,762	12,711,043

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with provisions applicable to companies' subject to the small companies regime within part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on the 14th September 2022 and signed on their behalf by:



Ruston Smith, Chair, GroceryAid Trustees



David Wheeler, Treasurer GroceryAid

Charity Number 1095897
Company Number: 04620683

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID

**CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022**

		2022	2021
	Note	£	£
NET CASH USED IN OPERATING ACTIVITIES	23	1,703,345	5,037,113
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Dividends, Interest and Rents for Investment		239,497	223,106
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(178,967)	(31,870)
Purchase of intangible assets		(17,180)	(18,404)
Proceeds from the sale of investments		228,000	-
Purchase of investments		(231,031)	(215,938)
Net cash provided by investing activities		40,319	(43,106)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		(1,663,027)	4,994,007
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		5,674,032	680,025
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	24	4,011,005	5,674,032

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2022

1. Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies of the charity are as follows:

a) **General information**

The charity is a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is 2 Lakeside Business Park, Swan Lane, Sandhurst, Berkshire, GU47 9DN.

b) **Statement of compliance and basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), and the Companies Act 2006.

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, except for investments which are included at fair value.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102, and has taken regard of the charity commissions guidance on public benefit, including 'Public Benefit: running a charity (PB2).

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity, and are rounded to the nearest £.

c) **Going Concern**

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis which assumes that the company will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

The social distancing rules implemented in response to the Covid pandemic resulted in all events for the year to 31st March 2021 being cancelled. The continuation of government restrictions through Spring 2021 meant that the majority of FY22 events were moved to Autumn 2021, and almost all of these events were able to run. To date, the FY23 calendar of events has been unaffected by Covid-19 cancellations and demand for tickets is stronger than ever as the industry embraces opportunities to network in a face-to-face environment.

Careful cash management has ensured that that Charity has maintained a strong cash balance. Furthermore, over the last two years, the Charity has not needed to draw down on reserves.

The Trustees have assessed the principal risks and formulated a suitable reserves policy as stated above. In particular, the principal risks have been reviewed given the current Covid-19 environment and cost-of-living crisis. A number of scenarios have been modelled based on different income and demand assumptions. Based on the results of these models and the level of reserves, the Trustees are satisfied that GroceryAid, the charitable company, will be able to continue its operations and meet its liabilities as they fall due for at least twelve months from the date of approval of the financial statements. The charitable company therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

d) **Method of consolidation**

The financial statements consolidate the results and position of the subsidiary undertaking (see note 3) and all of the Charity's branches on a line-by-line basis in both the Statement of Financial Activities (including income and expenditure account) and the Balance Sheet.

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2022

e) **Incoming resources**

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement, it is probable that the amount will be received, and it can be measured reliably as follows:

Voluntary income

Income from donations is accounted for on a receipt.

Grant income

Grants are recognised when any conditions for entitlement are met. Grants received before the conditions for entitlement have been met are deferred and included in creditors at the year end.

Legacies

Income from legacies is accounted for on a receivable basis being included at the earliest of the date of receipt or at the point which notification is received, provided that there is sufficient evidence to provide the necessary probability that the legacy will be received.

Central and branch fundraising

Income from fundraising is accounted for on a receivable basis. Income associated with a particular event is reported only upon that event having taken place, with income received in advance of events being treated as deferred income.

Investment income

Income from investments is accounted for on a receivable basis.

Gifts in Kind and Donated Services

Items donated to the charity to assist with particular fundraising events are recognised in the financial statements at market value as income to and resources expended against the respective activities. The donation of services to the charity is similarly recognised within the financial statements by the inclusion of a charge to expenditure and a corresponding credit to income, based on the estimated market value.

f) **Resources expended**

Resources expended are accounted for on an accruals basis. The inclusion of costs within the various categories of expenditure was made on the following basis:

Costs of raising funds

This category is used to record any costs which are associated with the cost of raising funds from whatever source and will include costs incurred in attracting donations and sponsorship.

Investment management fees

The cost of managing the Charity's investment funds is not charged separately by the investment managers but is instead effectively recovered by way of a deduction from the funds.

Charitable activities

This category is used to record expenditure incurred in fulfilling the Charity's objectives: it includes the payment of monetary grants to beneficiaries, expenditure made in providing beneficiaries with goods and services, and the costs of distributing and administering such direct charitable provision. The cost of such provision, and that in respect of monetary grants in particular, is recognised when award of the grant has been communicated to the beneficiary. Grants are awarded on an annual basis and are subject to annual review.

Governance

This category comprises costs incurred in the general management of the Charity, as distinct from that concerned directly with the conduct of the Charity's operational activities, and includes those costs associated with ensuring that the Charity complies with applicable laws and regulations, to include the preparation of information required for public accountability.

Allocation and apportionment of costs

Expenditure is classified according to the above headings that aggregate all costs related to those categories, whether they be directly attributable or apportioned as such. The bases of the apportionment of costs are consistent with the use of the staff resources under each heading.

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2022

g) **Creditors**

Creditors are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

h) **Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported for assets and liabilities as at the balance sheet date and the amounts reported for income and expenditure during the year. However, the nature of estimation means that actual outcomes could differ from those estimates.

The key assumptions involving estimation uncertainty at the balance sheet date that have a risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets or liabilities within the next financial year are as follows:

Useful life of Tangible and Intangible fixed assets

Both Tangible and Intangible fixed assets are depreciated over their useful lives. The actual lives of the asset and residual values are assessed annually and may vary depending on a number of factors. The useful life is set depending upon asset class. The Trustees believe this is an appropriate methodology for valuing these fixed assets.

i) **Tangible fixed assets**

Tangible fixed assets are depreciated over their useful lives taking into account residual values, where appropriate. The actual lives of the asset and residual values are assessed annually and may vary depending on a number of factors. Residual value assessments consider issues such as the remaining life of the asset and projected disposal values.

All assets costing over £1,000 are capitalised subject to considerations as to the likely useful life of each item. Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost. Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets over their estimated useful lives by equal annual instalments at the following rates:

Improvements to freehold	2% per annum
Freehold buildings	1% per annum
Office equipment	20% per annum
Furniture fixtures and fittings	10% per annum

No depreciation is provided on freehold land.

j) **Intangible assets**

All assets costing over £1,000 are capitalised subject to considerations as to the likely useful life of each item. Intangible fixed assets are stated at cost. Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets over their estimated useful lives by equal annual instalments at the following rates:

Software	20% per annum
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k) **Financial instruments**

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the transaction price, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where it is recognised at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Current assets and current liabilities are measured at the cash or consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2022

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

l) Investments

Investments are a form of basic financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value as at the balance sheet date using the bid price. Gains and losses on the disposal and revaluation of investments are charged or credited to the Statement of Financial Activities. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their opening carrying value or their purchase value if acquired subsequent to the first day of the financial year. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and their carrying value. Realised and unrealised investment gains and losses are combined in the statement of financial activities. The charity does not acquire put options, derivatives or other complex financial instruments.

m) Fund accounting

Funds held by the charity as unrestricted funds are free for the Trustees to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charitable objects as set out in the Charity's Reserves policy. Designated funds are those that have been set aside by Trustees for specific purposes. Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions imposed by the donors. At the year end, any restricted fund deficits can be eliminated by a transfer from unrestricted funds unless the Trustees are of the opinion that such deficits will be eliminated by future giving. There are no transfers out of restricted fund unless approval is given by the donors.

n) Pension costs

Pension contributions are charged in the financial statements as they become payable.

o) Publicity

Costs associated with the objective of raising awareness of the Charity and its profile, particularly within the grocery trade, are included under this sub-heading within Central Fundraising. This policy was adopted on the basis that increasing awareness of the Charity, particularly within the grocery industry, should enhance its relevance and influence and so, in turn, better enable it to raise funds through its various activities.

p) Irrecoverable VAT

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources expended for which it was incurred.

2. Results of the parent undertaking

The gross income and result of the parent charity excluding those of its subsidiary were as follows:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Gross income	5,536,229	9,385,748
Net movement in funds	1,479,823	4,532,911

3. Subsidiary undertaking

The charity has a wholly owned trading subsidiary, GroceryAid Trading Limited, by virtue of the ownership of that company's entire share capital of 10,000 ordinary £1 shares, to which all voting rights are attached. The subsidiary is incorporated in the U.K., company registration number 02952403. GroceryAid Trading

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2022

Limited may be used to operate certain activities that might be regarded as trading. The Trading Company's registered office is 2 Lakeside Business Park, Swan Lane, Sandhurst, GU47 9DN. The subsidiary donates its taxable profit to the National Grocers Benevolent Fund under the Gift Aid scheme. A summary of its trading results for the year to 31st March 2022 is shown below and accounts will be filed with the Registrar of Companies.

Profit and Loss Account - Summary	2022	2021
	£	£
Turnover	7,184,325	19,485
Net Profit/(Loss) and Retained Reserves	1,966,727	(424,865)

The subsidiary's net assets were comprised as follows:

Debtors	3,594,605	1,976,556
Cash at Bank	3,081,231	1,247,244
Creditors	(5,021,232)	(3,535,923)
Net Assets/(Liabilities)	1,654,604	(312,123)

4. Voluntary Income – Donations and Legacies

	2022	2021
	£	£
Donations - unrestricted	1,413,513	4,432,821
Voluntary Income – restricted:		
Grant from Leverhulme Trade Charities Trust	746,666	466,666
Funds for retailer hardship fund	100,000	250,000
TOTAL	2,260,179	5,149,487

In accordance with FRS 102 and the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the economic contribution of general volunteers is not recognised in the accounts.

5. Fundraising – all Unrestricted

Central fundraising		2022	
	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Surplus</u>
Central fundraising - unrestricted	8,683,550	(4,595,016)	4,088,534
Allocated support costs		(1,549,762)	(1,549,762)
PR Marketing	35,910	(35,910)	-
Total current central fundraising	8,719,460	(6,180,688)	2,538,772
Gifts in Kind	563,042	(563,042)	-
Total	9,282,502	(6,743,730)	2,538,772

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2022

<u>Central fundraising</u>		2021	
	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Surplus</u>
Central fundraising - unrestricted	3,226,736	(397,025)	2,829,711
Allocated support costs		(1,105,911)	(1,105,911)
PR Marketing	111,870	(111,870)	0
Total current central fundraising	3,338,606	(1,614,806)	1,723,800
Gifts in Kind	-	-	-
Total	3,338,606	(1,614,806)	1,723,800

PR Marketing costs includes the estimated value of discounted advertisements placed in various trade publications of £35,910 (2021: £111,870) and related development work. This support is to help raise the awareness of the work of the charity and its fundraising efforts.

6. Branch fundraising

	Income	2022	Expenses	Surplus	2021
	£	£	£	£	Surplus
Total Branch Fundraising	217,135	(39,961)	177,174	18,263	

Gifts in Kind are included in the individual branch fundraising income and expenses above amounting to £nil in total (2021£nil)

7. Investment income

	2022	2021
	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds
	£	£
Dividend and other investment income	238,814	238,134
Bank deposit interest receivable	20	20
Other investment income	228,663	228,662
Total Investment Income	467,497	467,497
		223,106

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2022

8. Charitable expenditure

2022

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
Monetary Grants	2,501,340	736,138	3,237,478
Provision of goods and services	1,192,593	115,778	1,308,371
Allocated support costs	1,053,925	-	1,053,925
Total	4,747,858	851,916	5,599,774

2021

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
Monetary Grants	2,228,805	508,055	2,736,860
Provision of goods and services	1,108,291	184,779	1,293,070
Allocated support costs	949,890	-	949,890
Total	4,286,986	692,834	4,979,820

The grants paid to individuals are to relieve financial hardship in accordance with the objects of the Charity. The provision of goods and services includes one-off crisis payments, provision of basic essentials, helpline facilities, respite and other goods and services in furtherance of the charity's objects.

9. Governance costs

	2022 £	2021 £
Audit – Current year	28,127	22,240
Audit – Relating to Prior year	-	-
Meetings	36	1,500
Legal advice	78,256	72,422
Trustees' expenses	887	48
Trustees' indemnity insurance	6,372	934
	113,678	97,144

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2022

10. Other Expenses

	2022	2021
	£	£
Legal advice	-	67,111
Release of other creditor	-	-
Prior year	3,020	
	3,020	(67,111)

Legal advice in 2020/21 relates to the legal and professional costs incurred in terms of the investigation into accounting irregularities in one of our volunteer fundraising branches. This matter has now been concluded.

11. Support Costs

2022	Central Fundraising £	Charitable Activities £	Governance £	Total
Staff related costs	1,236,533	633,528	143,484	2,013,545
Direct costs (note 9)	-	-	113,678	113,678
Overheads	294,225	143,385	19,850	457,460
Governance costs	-	277,012	(277,012)	-
Total allocation	1,530,758	1,053,925	-	2,583,683

2021	Central Fundraising £	Charitable Activities £	Governance £	Total
Staff related costs	842,897	541,431	136,953	1,521,282
Direct costs (note 9)	-	-	97,144	97,144
Overheads	248,855	152,365	11,803	423,216
Governance costs	-	256,094	(256,094)	-
Total allocation	1,091,753	949,890	-	2,041,643

The costs shown above are not specific to any one activity and have been allocated on the basis of a judgement as to the proportion of time spent on each of the activities.

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2022

12. Staff costs

	2022	2021
	£	£
Salaries	1,544,389	1,221,767
Temp Staff	52,741	1,440
Employer's National Insurance	166,054	130,447
Pension contributions	121,087	98,176
Health insurance	12,040	9,738
	<u>1,896,311</u>	<u>1,461,568</u>

The average monthly head count was 36 staff (2021: 29 Staff) and the average monthly number of employees (including casual and part-time staff) during the year was as follows:

	2022	2021
Charitable welfare	14.4	13.2
Fundraising	19.9	14.1
Governance	1.7	1.7
Average Headcount	<u>36.0</u>	<u>29.0</u>

8 out of the total of 36 employees at the year-end are part-time (2021: 7 out of 29 employees). There were 4 employees (2021: 6 employees) with emoluments above £60,000 per annum.

The number of senior post holders and other staff who receive emoluments, excluding pension contributions but including benefits in kind, in the following ranges were:

	2022	2021
£60,000 to £69,999	-	2
£70,000 to £79,999	-	-
£80,000 to £89,999	1	2
£90,000 to £99,999	1	-
£100,000 to £109,999	1	1
£110,000 to £119,999	-	-
£120,000 to £129,999	-	-
£130,000 to £139,999	1	1

(ii) The pension arrangements operated by the charity are for all members of staff and provide benefits on a defined contribution basis. Contributions paid in accordance with the rules of the scheme are charged to the statement of financial activities as they become payable. The cost for the year was £121,087 (2021: £98,176) and there were no outstanding or prepaid contributions at the balance sheet date.

(iii) The charity holds an investment bond, valued in the accounts at £945 (2021: £2,810), which is used to supplement the pension of a former Director General.

(iv) Funds belonging to the Charity have been used for the purchase of insurance to indemnify the Trustees against the consequences of any neglect or default on their part. The cost recognised for the year in providing that insurance was £6,372 (2021: £934).

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2022

(v) The key management personnel of the charity comprise the Trustees, Chief Executive, Fundraising Director, Welfare Director and Finance Director & Company Secretary. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £510,993 (2021: £497,378).

13. Tangible assets

	Freehold land and buildings £	Office Equipment £	Furniture, fixtures and fittings £	Total £
<u>Cost:</u>				
Brought forward	1,197,855	96,215	36,395	1,330,465
Additions	131,099	40,696	7,174	178,967
Disposals	(16,666)	(11,578)	(4,780)	(33,024)
Carried forward	1,312,288	125,333	38,789	1,476,408
<u>Depreciation</u>				
Brought forward	141,414	54,544	11,728	207,696
Charge for year	12,156	16,867	2,929	31,952
Disposals	(2,275)	(9,675)	(3,010)	(14,960)
Carried forward	151,295	61,746	11,647	224,688
Net book value carried forward	1,160,993	63,587	27,142	1,251,721
Net book value brought forward	1,056,422	41,661	24,667	1,122,720

All of the Charity group's fixed assets were held for functional charity use and other than one freehold property which is retained for direct charitable purposes; all assets are used in the running and administration of the Charity.

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2022

14. Intangible assets

	Website £	Software £	Total £
<u>Cost:</u>			
Brought forward	35,720	131,337	167,057
Additions	3,456	13,725	17,181
Disposals	-	-	-
Carried forward	39,176	145,062	184,238
<u>Depreciation</u>			
Brought forward	5,357	113,235	118,592
Charge for year	7,664	8,293	15,957
Disposals	-	-	-
Carried forward	13,021	121,528	134,549
Net book value carried forward	26,155	23,534	49,689
Net book value brought forward	30,363	18,102	48,465

15. Investments

	Group		Charity	
	2022	2021	2022	2021
<u>Analysis of Movement of Investments</u>				
Market value at beginning of year	8,957,345	7,328,752	8,957,345	7,338,752
Additions to investments at cost	231,030	215,938	231,030	215,938
Disposals at market value	-	-	-	-
Net gain/(loss) on revaluation	724,618	1,402,655	724,618	1,402,655
Market value at end of year	9,912,993	8,947,345	9,912,993	8,947,345
<u>Investments held</u>				
Listed investments	9,902,993	8,947,345	9,902,993	8,947,345
Investments in subsidiary undertakings	-	-	10,000	10,000
Total investments held	9,902,993	8,947,345	9,912,993	8,957,345

Unrestricted fund investments consist of a portfolio of listed investments managed on the charity's behalf by professional fund managers. The following investments make up more than 5% of the total investment portfolio:

	% of total	Market Value
BNY Mellon Global Income Fund Newton Inst Shares 1	15%	£1,524,081
Newton Growth and Income Fund for Charities Inc Class	29%	£2,879,763
Rathbones Core Investment Fund for Charities	40%	£3,941,894
CCLA COIF Charities Property Fund	16%	£1,555,588

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2022

16. Debtors

	Group		Charity	
	2022	2021	2022	2021
Current:				
Trade debtors	2,279,637	1,219,909	77,175	42,387
Amounts due from subsidiary undertaking			113,439	-
Other debtors	1,333,029	473,770	1,500	1,500
Prepayments	141,517	75,985	80,901	75,985
Accrued income	108,190	129,777	108,191	129,777
	3,862,373	1,897,441	381,206	249,649
Loans receivable secured on property	8,111	8,111	8,111	8,111
	3,870,484	1,905,552	389,317	257,760

17. Cash at bank and in hand

	Group		Charity	
	2022	2021	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Head office bank current account	925,429	4,418,784	925,429	4,418,784
Head office deposit accounts	74	74	74	74
Trading Co bank account	3,081,231	1,247,243	-	-
Branch bank accounts *	4,271	7,931	4,271	7,931
	4,011,005	5,674,032	929,774	4,426,789

*Deposit account in Northern Ireland only.

18. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Group		Charity	
	2022	2021	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Trade creditors	(1,091,151)	(189,263)	(176,211)	(181,157)
Other creditors	(667,526)	(4,073,007)	(667,526)	(896,199)
Accruals	(196,822)	(37,554)	(155,546)	(33,094)
Deferred income	(4,176,029)	(1,032,172)	(224,449)	(689,369)
Amounts due to subsidiary undertaking	-	-	-	(302,267)
	(6,131,528)	(5,331,996)	(1,223,732)	(2,102,086)

Movement on deferred income balances was as follows:

Balance brought forward	(1,032,172)	(545,619)	(744,217)	(744,217)
Released to statement of financial activities	1,032,172	545,619	744,217	744,217
Fund raising proceeds received	(4,176,029)	(1,032,172)	(375,799)	(689,369)
Balance carried forward	(4,176,029)	(1,032,172)	(375,799)	(689,369)

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2022

19. Commitments under operating lease

	2022	2021
	£	£
Office equipment		
Amounts to be paid		
Within 1 year	8,625	5,748
Between 2 - 5 Years	17,269	3,451
Over 5 Years	-	-
	<u>25,894</u>	<u>9,199</u>

Operating lease costs in the year ending 31st March 2022, were £5,748. (2021: £6,231)

20. Funds

At the balance sheet date restricted funds were represented by current assets with the balance of the Charity's assets and liabilities were representing the unrestricted funds.

The Designated Funds represent two funds:

- 1) The balance of funds designated by the Trustees to offer enhanced mental health support, bereavement grants and crisis grants for grocery people directly afflicted by Covid-19
- 2) The gross funds received by the sale of the property were designated by the Trustees to be used for the refurbishment of the Sandhurst office.

The Restricted Funds comprise:

- 1) The unspent funds received from a retailer for a hardship fund administered by the charity for their employees only.
- 2) The Leverhulme Trade Charities Trust grant received during the year, which can only be used for certain categories of our beneficiaries. During 2022, the Leverhulme Trade Charities Trust also converted the fund it had available for the support of critical incidents to a one-off donation for the purposes of School Essential Grants. As at the end of FY22, there were no unspent funds in either of these categories.

GROUP	Brought forward	Income	Expenditure	Gains/ (losses)	Transfers	Carried forward
Year to 31 March 2022						
General funds						
Unrestricted fund	11,470,288	11,152,647	(10,920,027)	724,617	131,096	12,558,620
Designated funds – Covid 19	893,131	-	(614,541)	-		278,590
Designated funds – office refurb	-	228,000	-	-	(131,096)	96,904
Total general funds	12,363,419	11,380,647	(11,534,568)	724,617	-	12,934,114
Restricted funds						
Leverhulme Trade Charities Trust	-	746,666	(746,666)	-	-	0
Retailer hardship fund	25,500	100,000	(105,250)	-	-	20,250
Total restricted funds	25,500	846,666	(851,916)	-	-	20,250
Total funds	12,388,918	12,227,313	(12,386,484)	724,617	-	12,954,364

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2022

CHARITY	Brought forward	Income	Expenditure	Gains/ (losses)	Transfers	Carried forward
Year to 31 March 2022						
General funds						
Unrestricted fund	11,792,412	4,461,563	(6,195,670)	724,617	131,096	10,914,017
Designated funds – Covid 19	893,131	-	(614,541)	-	-	278,590
Designated funds – office refurb	-	228,000	-	-	(131,096)	96,904
Total general funds	12,685,543	4,689,563	(6,810,211)	724,617	-	11,289,511
Restricted funds						
Leverhulme Trade Charities Trust	-	746,666	(746,666)	-	-	0
Retailer hardship fund	25,500	100,000	(105,250)	-	-	20,250
Total restricted funds	25,500	846,666	(851,916)	-	-	20,250
Total funds	12,711,043	5,536,229	(7,662,127)	7,24,617	-	11,309,761

GROUP & CHARITY	Brought forward	Income	Expenditure	Gains/ (losses)	Transfers	Carried forward
Year to 31 March 2021						
General funds						
Unrestricted fund	8,916,869	6,516,112	(5,365,348)	1,402,655	-	11,470,288
Designated funds		1,500,000	(606,869)		-	893,131
Total general funds	8,916,869	8,016,112	(5,972,217)	1,402,655	-	12,363,419
Restricted funds						
Leverhulme Trade Charities Trust	1,668	466,666	(468,334)	-	-	0
Retailer hardship fund	-	250,000	(224,500)	-	-	25,500
Total restricted funds	1,668	716,666	(692,834)	-	-	25,500
Total funds	8,918,536	8,732,778	(6,665,051)	1,402,655	-	12,388,918

During the year ending 31st March 2022, a property that had been owned by the Charity was sold for £228,000. The funds, net of fees was set aside as a designated fund to be used for the refurbishment of the Sandhurst Head office.

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2022

21. Net assets

2022 Consolidated Group	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	1,251,721	-	1,251,721
Intangible fixed assets	49,689	-	49,689
Investments	9,902,993	-	9,902,993
Current assets	7,861,241	20,250	7,881,491
Current liabilities	(6,131,528)	-	(6,131,528)
Total	12,934,114	20,250	12,954,366

2022 Charity	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	1,251,721	-	1,251,721
Intangible fixed assets	49,689	-	49,689
Investments	9,912,993	-	9,912,993
Current assets	1,319,091	20,250	1,319,091
Current liabilities	(1,223,732)	-	(1,223,732)
Total	11,289,511	20,250	11,309,762

2021 Consolidated Group	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	1,122,770	-	1,122,770
Intangible fixed assets	48,465	-	48,465
Investments	8,947,345	-	8,947,345
Current assets	7,554,084	25,500	7,579,584
Current liabilities	(5,331,996)	-	(5,331,996)
Total	12,340,668	25,550	12,366,168

2021 Charity	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	1,122,770	-	1,122,770
Intangible fixed assets	48,465	-	48,465
Investments	8,957,345	-	8,957,345
Current assets	4,659,049	25,500	4,684,549
Current liabilities	(2,102,086)	-	(2,102,086)
Total	12,685,543	25,550	12,711,043

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2022

22. Legal status of the Charity

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of a winding up is limited to £1.

23. Reconciliation of Net Incoming Resources to Net Cash (Outflow)/Inflow from Operating Activities

	2022	2021
	£	£
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period	565,446	3,470,382
Income from investments	(467,476)	(223,080)
Interest receivable	(20)	(26)
(Gains)/losses on investments	(724,617)	(1,402,655)
Depreciation & Amortisation	49,131	40,112
Loss (Profit) on sale of fixed assets	16,840	508
(Increase)/Decrease in debtors	(2,032,531)	1,182,179
Increase/(Decrease) in creditors	889,882	1,992,444
Net cash (outflow)/inflow from operating activities	(1,703,345)	5,037,113

24. Reconciliation of Net cash Flow Movement in Net Funds

	2022	2021
	£	£
Increase/(decrease) in cash in the period	(1,663,027)	4,994,007
Change in net funds	(1,663,027)	4,994,007
Net funds at 1 April	5,674,032	680,025
Net funds at 31 March	4,011,005	5,674,032

25. Analysis of changes in Net Funds

	1-Apr-2021	Cash flows	31-Mar-2022
	£	£	£
Cash at bank	5,674,032	(1,663,027)	4,011,005

26. Related party transactions

During the year ending 31st March 2022, there were no related party transactions (2021: nil).

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2022

27. Parent company Statement of Financial Activity

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£
Income from:				
Donations and legacies	1,413,513	846,666	2,260,179	5,787,151
Central fundraising	2,591,418	-	2,591,418	3,353,912
Branch fundraising	217,135	-	217,135	21,578
Investment Income	467,497	-	467,497	3,353,912
Total Income	4,689,563	846,666	5,536,229	9,385,748
Expenditure on:				
Cost of generating funds				
Central fundraising	2,019,373	-	2,019,373	1,205,246
Branch fundraising	39,961	-	39,961	3,315
Charitable activities				
Grants	3,239,087	736,138	3,975,225	3,401,783
Goods and services	1,508,770	115,778	1,624,549	1,578,037
Other Expenses	3,020	-	3,020	67,111
Total Expenditure	6,810,211	851,916	7,622,127	6,255,492
Net gains/(losses) on investments	724,617	-	724,617	1,402,655
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds	(1,396,032)	(5,250)	(1,401,282)	4,532,911
Reconciliation of funds:				
Total funds brought forward from previous year	12,685,543	25,500	12,711,043	8,178,132
Total funds carried forward	11,289,511	20,250	11,309,761	12,711,043

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND

England & Wales - Charity number 1095897

Accounts

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID

**A Company Limited by Guarantee
Registered Charity**

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31st MARCH 2021

**Registered Charity Number 1095897 (England & Wales) SC039255 (Scotland)
Company Registered in England and Wales Number 04620683**

Registered Office and Principal Address:

**2 Lakeside Business Park,
Swan Lane,
Sandhurst, Berkshire
GU47 9DN**

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2021

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NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2021

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Directors and Trustees

The directors of the charitable company ("the Charity") are its Trustees for the purposes of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the Trustees. An explanation of the method of appointment of Trustees is provided in the Trustees' Report.

The Trustees serving during the year and at the time the accounts were signed were:

R H Bartlett	(Appointed 22/09/2020)
B W Dalla Mura	
J M Gordon	(Retired 28/04/2021)
L D Hendle	
D C Hudson	(Retired 11/11/2020)
N F Matthews OBE	(Retired 11/11/2020)
M McKenzie	
H E Murray	
D Pervez	(Appointed 22/09/2020)
M P Smith	
R A M Smith	Chairman
L A Stigant	
H M Tatum	(Appointed 11/05/2021)
H M Tucker	
J C Uttley	
D C Wheeler	Treasurer
M R Williamson	

Life Patrons	Lord Price CVO; Mike Coupe; Paul Monk
President	Charles Wilson
Chief Executive	Steve Barnes
Company Secretary	Catherine Robinson-McCormick
Registered Office	2 Lakeside Business Park, Swan Lane, Sandhurst, Berkshire GU47 9DN
Website	www.groceryaid.org.uk
Email	info@groceryaid.org.uk
Independent Auditors	Moore Kingston Smith LLP, Devonshire House, 60 Goswell Road, London EC1M 7AD
Bankers	Lloyds Bank, 24 Broad Street, Reading, Berkshire, RG1 2BT
Investment providers	CCLA Investment Management Limited, London Newton Investment Management Limited, London Rathbone Brothers Plc, London

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

It has been an intensely challenging year for our nation, our trade and the charity as we navigated through Covid-19. As we anticipated, the need to support grocery colleagues increased over the 12 months to 31st March 2021 and we supported more people than ever before.

This was only possible thanks to the immense generosity of the charity's supporters who stood shoulder-to-shoulder with GroceryAid with funding and support as the team were unable to deliver our programme of fundraising events during the year.

Listening and Acting to Meet Colleagues' Needs

The Charity has continued to broaden and strengthen its support to meet the needs of colleagues and continues to work with and listen to HR leaders across the grocery industry to ensure our welfare support is aligned to provide the right and very best type of service to meet the industry's changing needs.

In response to Covid-19, GroceryAid further improved and increased both the financial support available to grocery colleagues as well as the emotional and practical help on offer.

We have reduced the eligibility criteria again for financial support from one year to six months for those currently working in grocery to support even more colleagues who find themselves in difficult circumstances. This is an important statement of our intent to be there for all grocery colleagues in need and makes us the most accessible benevolent fund in our industry.

To specifically support through Covid-19, we added the following programmes to enhance our existing support for colleagues in need.

- GroceryAid Covid-19 Fund – The Trustees designated £1.5m to offer enhanced mental health support, bereavement grants and crisis grants for grocery people directly afflicted by this dreadful disease.
- School Essentials Grant – we launched a grant programme to help low-income families with the cost of buying school essentials for over 1,500 children. This fund has since been expanded significantly for FY21 to assist almost 4,000 children. This increase in support was made possible with the extraordinarily generous support from the Leverhulme Trade Charities Trust.

To ensure we provide the best emotional and practical support to grocery colleagues, we also reviewed our Helpline and engaged a new service supplier which went live on April 1st 2020. All emotional support calls are answered by a trained counsellor, so all callers have access to immediate counselling if required.

We also offer structured counselling sessions that are delivered face-to-face (virtually at present) or over the phone. To embrace new technology, and to meet colleagues' needs, they can now also access Woebot, an artificial intelligence counsellor which allows them to get emotional support 24/7 via a smartphone app.

To address the wider challenges that people have experienced through Covid-19, Grocery colleagues can now also access a dedicated team of information specialists who are able to provide the same breadth of information as Citizens Advice Bureau through the Helpline.

We have continued partnerships with Relate to provide family and relationship counselling, StepChange for debt management advice, Law Express for legal advice and RightSteps for our Health and Wellbeing portal. RightSteps has also provided guidance during the Covid-19 pandemic on topics including 'Managing Stress', 'Bereavement, Loss and Grief' and 'Staying Motivated'.

We have seen a rapid increase in the use of Relate counselling (up 148%) over the year. Lockdowns have inevitably resulted in more difficult household relationships during the most trying of times. We are relieved

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID

that so many grocery colleagues accessed the service to support themselves and their families when counselling was required.

The Charity has continued to broaden and strengthen its support to meet the needs of colleagues and continues to work with and listen to HR leaders across the grocery industry to ensure our welfare support is aligned to provide the right and very best type of service to meet the industry's changing needs.

A Challenging but Successful Year for Fundraising

Charles Wilson as President of GroceryAid led our fundraising activity through a year like no other. We have been very fortunate to have had Charles at the helm in 2020 as under his guidance, we exceeded our target for the year. This was despite the cancellation of all events in our calendar. We and Charles remain hugely appreciative of the generosity of individuals and companies in the grocery trade who collectively contributed to this astonishing result.

Charles retired from a full-time role in the trade in February 2021 and we are delighted he will remain GroceryAid President until the end of 2021. We could not have asked for better guidance in our fundraising activities during the most significant post-war crisis our nation has faced.

Inevitably our branches and networks were significantly curtailed in the activities they could run in our last financial year. However, their enthusiasm never wavered, and all are planning events to run as soon as we are allowed. I would like to thank them for their perseverance, commitment and the very valuable future contributions they will make to our fund raising.

The Charity generated an operational surplus on the back of strong growth in income. This was driven by donations both in lieu of events we were not able to run and separate donations to support the charity through the pandemic.

The surplus was further enhanced as the value of our reserves rose over the year as stock markets showed signs of recovery.

We are mindful that the ramifications of Covid-19 on colleagues will not be confined to our last financial year. We expect continued higher levels of support will be required for colleagues throughout the current financial year. Therefore, over a two year period, we anticipate the surplus from last year will be used to support grocery colleagues in this time resulting in a break-even position over combined years.

We increased our support from trusts and foundations that have their roots in the grocery industry to help those in need. We are delighted and grateful for the contribution we received from the Leverhulme Trade Charities Trust whose backing remains exceptional and to the Garfield Weston Foundation that doubled its support in 2020.

Reaching Out and Raising Awareness

Over the past year, we accelerated our move away from a traditional advertising campaign approach to find new ways to reach out and connect with industry colleagues more effectively. We placed a greater focus on social media and digital channels to raise awareness and we are pleased with the progress made. We wanted to reach as many colleagues as possible last year to support them through Covid and we were delighted that so many supporters worked with us to achieve this.

We put a particular focus on reaching the independent retailer community in 2020. This is naturally a more difficult community to access but one that, with others, were working hard on the frontline during Covid. We set up an Independent Retailer Strategy Group chaired by Andrew Thompson which delivered a step change in awareness supported by the trade with great ideas and creative execution. Thank you to Andrew for leading this initiative.

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID

To capture the great work of the industry in supporting the country, we produced a short film “Grocery feeds the nation” which we released in autumn 2020. This captured the contribution of individuals and companies through the darkest days of the pandemic. It is a powerful and moving testament to our industry and was widely shared. This raised awareness of GroceryAid within the trade and helped us to reach more colleagues that need our support.

We are planning an event in 2021 to say thank you to the trade for all that it did to feed the nation and for the support given to GroceryAid.

Challenging Year for Events But an Exciting Year Ahead

We were not able to run events in the last financial year, but this has not stopped us from continuing to plan and market events for the current financial year. We hope all these will run, except for the Windermere Row, always making sure that guidance is followed to protect our industry colleagues.

We have sold over 10,000 tickets for 2021 with 95% of events sold out prior to the start of our current financial year. This gives us great confidence that the market is there as soon as we can proceed.

Since last September, we have played a much larger role in the delivery of the Diversity and Inclusion in Grocery (DIG) annual programme. This industry-wide programme has gained significant momentum with 40 sponsor companies and three streams of activity led by GroceryAid and delivered by the trade:

- Shared learning: Monthly virtual Learning Labs hosted by leading advocates in the trade. Access to understand what other organisations are doing in this space and opportunities to make connections, seek advice and share success through a dedicated online portal.
- Mentoring: Helping talented people reach their true potential through cross-industry mentoring
- DIG Live!: A day like no other, designed by the industry for the industry with one key goal – to make diversity everyone’s business. This will be attended by over 1,000 colleagues.

Our Trustee Board

There have been some changes to our Trustee board over the past 12 months. We said goodbye to two long-serving Trustees as Nigel Matthews and David Hudson retired after over 35 years of joint service between them. Their enthusiastic counsel over this period has been deeply appreciated and the contribution has been immense.

After the close of the financial year, a further long-standing Trustee Ian Gordon retired. Ian was a volunteer welfare assessor and Chair of our Welfare Committee for many years – we, again, are very grateful for his excellent contribution.

During the financial year, we welcomed Rhian Bartlett, Food Commercial Director, Sainsbury’s PLC and Dawood Pervez, Managing Director, Bestway onto our Trustee board and we are already benefitting from their input.

After the close of the financial year, we also welcomed Hayley Tatum, Senior Vice President and Chief People Officer, Asda onto the Trustee Board and I very much look forward to working with Hayley.

In 2019 we established GroceryAid Trading Ltd as a separate company for our trading activities - largely events. With no events running in the last financial year, there are limited results to be consolidated into this report.

We expect to be running activity through the Trading Company in 2021 and to ensure best practice in governance, we have appointed an Independent Non-Executive Director. Derek Lawlor, Chief Merchandising Officer, Asda has agreed to take on this role. Derek will sit on the Board alongside Trustees Mark Smith and Mark Williamson and executive representation from Steve Barnes (Chief Executive – GroceryAid) and Jane Hill (Fundraising Director – GroceryAid).

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Our People, Our Volunteers, Our Supporters

I am delighted that we were able to help over 17,000 industry colleagues when they needed us last year.

I am so grateful, to so many, that we had such a successful fundraising year in such a challenging time – which will allow us to continue to help those in need in the future.

I am incredibly proud of the GroceryAid team along with our wonderful group of volunteers, who stretch themselves to do incredible things for grocery people in need. I am also humbled by the feedback we receive from beneficiaries which inspires us to work even harder on their behalf.

I would like to end by once again thanking our supporters, our volunteers and the team for all their hard work and generosity in supporting industry colleagues in need during this particularly difficult year.



Ruston Smith
Chair of GroceryAid Trustees

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2021

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The National Grocers Benevolent Fund, trading as GroceryAid, is a registered charity in England and Wales (registration number 1095897) and Scotland (registration number SC039255) and is constituted as a company limited by guarantee (registration number 04620683).

The charity is run by 14 serving Trustees who are also directors and members of the limited company. In that capacity they select new members of the Board of Trustees.

Trustees are responsible for compliance with our legal and statutory requirements and the safe and effective running of the charity. They meet every quarter to discuss and review both the day-to-day operations and the strategic direction of the charity. In addition, the Trustees also meet on an ad hoc basis when required. Steve Barnes, appointed by the Trustees as Chief Executive, manages the day-to-day operations of the charity. He reports to the quarterly Trustee meetings and contributes to the discussions in an advisory capacity. His senior direct reports are Mandi Leonard, Welfare Director, Jane Hill, Fundraising Director and Catherine Robinson-McCormick, Finance Director.

Remuneration for key management personnel is determined by a sub-committee of the Trustee Board - the Remuneration Committee. This committee has specific delegated responsibilities to:

- Set the remuneration policy for directors (salary, pension and benefits) in line with the approach taken for GroceryAid's employees
- Determine salary levels for directors considering:
 - Individual directors' capabilities and contribution;
 - Salary levels in other charities of a comparable nature and size;
 - Salary levels across GroceryAid; and
 - Overall appropriateness given charitable purpose, stakeholder perception and affordability.
- Be kept informed by the Chief Executive of any significant changes in the remuneration arrangements for GroceryAid's employees.

The objectives of our senior remuneration policy are:

- To be able recruit and retain individuals who will lead the successful delivery of our mission, and
- To reward them fairly taking account of their contribution, market levels and levels within GroceryAid.

The Remuneration Committee meets at least twice annually and is chaired by Helen Tucker.

Various Trustees and industry colleagues sit on six main sub-committees covering welfare, welfare strategy, communications, finance, fundraising and remuneration. These committees consider each of their areas, in depth, and report to the Trustee Board on key developments, risks, plans and initiatives. Formal terms of reference exist for these committees and these are set out in the GroceryAid Policy Document, which is reviewed and updated annually. This document also contains various processes and procedures to ensure that we have appropriate controls in place for the effective and efficient operation of the charity.

From 2018, it was agreed that Trustees can serve for a three-year period and may be re-elected to serve for two further three-year periods. All GroceryAid Trustees have signed an 'Eligibility to Serve' declaration form, and a Declaration of Interest and Connected Persons form. The possible existence of conflicts of interest is considered prior to the start of every meeting of the Board of Trustees. The Declaration of Interest and Connected Persons forms are completed annually and are held on file at the GroceryAid offices.

New Trustees, as a qualification, must have worked or currently work in any area within the grocery industry. All nominations are approved by the Board of Trustees. All new Trustees have a formal induction that covers the role of the charity and what is expected of them in their role as GroceryAid Trustees. Governance requirements of both Trustees and Senior Management are incorporated into the GroceryAid Policy Manual which forms part of ongoing training and updates at Trustee meetings.

No Trustees are paid by the charity for their services.

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Charity law requires organisations to demonstrate explicitly that their aims are for public benefit. The charitable activities of GroceryAid are available to people in need who are, or have been, engaged in the grocery or provisions trade, greengrocers and the off-licence trade, in any capacity and for their surviving spouses, civil partners and dependent children. The Trustee Board have discussed the issue of public benefit and are confident that the breadth and scope of the work of the Charity, as disclosed in this Report, clearly falls within the guidelines set in Section 17 of the 2011 Charities Act.

OBJECTIVES & ACTIVITIES

The objectives of the charity are the provision of relief to persons in need, whether that be through ill health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage who:

- are or have been engaged in the grocery trade, in any capacity; or
- are the surviving spouse, civil partner or otherwise long term partner or child (or other dependent or former dependent) of persons who have been engaged in the grocery trade

The term grocery trade means any work relating to the manufacturing, logistics, distribution or sales of groceries or other products typically sold in supermarkets, whether wholesale or retail. For the avoidance of doubt, this includes the off-licence trade.

Our vision is that everyone engaged in this trade can turn to us for help. Our long-term objectives are to work with the industry to identify and support those in need, to address social isolation through our Helpline and Carer's initiative and to enhance our income streams to further support our industry colleagues.

The key activities of the charity are providing emotional, practical and financial support to colleagues working in the grocery sector, who meet our eligibility criteria as agreed and regularly reviewed by the Trustees. This includes, but is not exclusive to:

- non-repayable financial grants
- 24/7 freephone Helpline providing emotional and practical support
- relationship counselling
- legal advice
- digital wellbeing support for adults and young people
- on-line wellbeing platform
- workplace critical incident support
- managers support line
- debt advice

Emotional and practical support services are delivered in partnership with expert, third party organisations, to provide bespoke services to colleagues.

FUNDRAISING

The vast majority of the charity's income comes from the industry we work to support. This can be in the form of donations and/or by supporting regional and national fundraising events. The remainder is derived from the charity's investments.

GroceryAid fundraises through industry events organised by its branches and its central fundraising team who on occasion use the services of event management companies to assist in organising events. It also received donations during the year from another organisation which organised events for the industry.

No monies are raised by public collections. GroceryAid does not receive any support from either local or central government.

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GroceryAid is registered with the Fundraising Regulator and follows the fundraising code. GroceryAid has not received any complaints about its fundraising activities.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Demand for our welfare services has continue to grow through the year, and we expect that growth to continue through the next financial year as the government relaxes covid restriction, including the unwinding of the furlough scheme. We continue to support both our working colleagues and those who have retired from the trade.

The Charity has responded to this challenge by increasing its impact in the following areas:

- GroceryAid spent £5.0M to support grocery colleagues coping with financial, emotional and physical hardship during the year ending 31st March 2021.
- Applications to the charity increased by a further 47% building on the growth in the previous year.
- In the year to 31st March 2021, 4,200 people in the industry received financial support, an increase of 32% compared to the previous year.
- Of the colleagues we support, in total 73% are of working age.
- Calls to GroceryAid's Helpline were up by 12%. Our Helpline provides problem-solving information and emotional support to anybody working in the industry.
- Demand for our Relate counselling service increased by 148%, while we almost 1,000 colleagues download Woebot, a digitally advanced service available via an app for Iphone or Android. This artificial intelligence counsellor allows a user to access in the moment emotional support 24/7.
- For a fourth year running, our largest percentage of referrals came from companies in our industry rather than other charities – awareness of GroceryAid is growing where we need it.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Our operational annual surplus was £2.0M, which combined with a net gain on investments of £1.4M, resulted in an overall surplus of £3.4M, compared to a deficit of £0.3M in the prior year.

The net deficit in the year to 31st March 2020 was attributable to a fall in the value of our investments caused by the Covid-19 crisis which was beyond our control. During the year to 31st March 2021, the value of investments has recovered to 103% of their pre-covid values.

Total income for the period amounted to £8.0M, a decrease of £1.0M compared to the prior year and reflects the generosity and support of the grocery industry during a year in which we were unable to run any events.

Total costs of £6.0M were £2.7M lower than the previous year, and reflect increased welfare spend, offset by reduced event costs.

As at 31st March 2021, cash at bank and in hand was £5.7M, £5.0M higher than the prior year.

Principal Risks

Our Risk Management Policy seeks to identify any major risks to which the Charity may be exposed and that may affect the realisation of our goals.

Our short-term targets and long-term objectives are reviewed by the Trustee Board at our quarterly Trustee meetings. The Risk Assessment procedure is also regularly reviewed, and we can confirm systems are in place to mitigate those risks. This assessment forms part of our Policy Document which is updated and issued annually.

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The Trustees consider the key risks facing GroceryAid are:

- Income generated from donations and other fundraising activities is insufficient to meet the needs of our beneficiaries. We manage this through review and discussions at each Trustee meeting and through our Fundraising Committee, led by the President of GroceryAid, that has over 50 senior members from the industry who meet three times per year to review and discuss our fundraising efforts.
- An unforeseen rise in the demand for GroceryAid's services result in a significant increase in the applications for help and support. We manage this risk through our Welfare Committee, Finance Committee and the Trustee Board who continually review our financial position.
- Financial and reputational damage that could occur in the event of a cyber attack on the organization. Cyber crime continues to rise in scale and complexity. We manage this risk through regular staff training combined with external penetration and phishing exercises undertaken to determine any potential areas of weakness.

Reserves Policy

The aim of our Reserves Policy is to ensure the sustainability of the Charity.

The Trustees have reviewed the Reserves Policy of the Charity as set out in the GroceryAid Policy Document. Sustainability of the fund is paramount to our beneficiaries and the Trustees believe that a minimum level of £5M of reserves is sufficient to cover three years beneficiary payments and the infrastructure required to administer these payments in a number of stress tested scenarios. As at 31st March 2021, GroceryAid's free reserves were £10.3M .

Whilst this is above our target, we are mindful that the ramifications of Covid-19 on colleagues will not be confined to our last financial year. We expect elevated levels of support for colleagues will be required throughout the current financial year. Therefore, over a two year period, we anticipate the surplus from over performance last year to be used to support grocery colleagues in this year resulting in a break-even position over combined years.

Furthermore, whilst the market value of investments has recovered to pre-Covid levels, there remains uncertainty over the longer-term impact of the pandemic on investment values.

Going Concern

The social distancing rules implemented as part of the national response to the covid pandemic has resulted in a number of planned events being cancelled but plans are in place for events to be resumed once government restrictions allow. Management has worked closely with the Trustees and the Grocery Industry to ensure that the Charity remains able to support those Grocery Industry colleagues in need, through additional donations and seeking to support grocery colleagues in new ways.

The Trustees have assessed the principal risks and formulated a suitable reserves policy as stated above. In particular, the principal risks have been reviewed given the current Covid-19 environment. A number of scenarios have been modelled based on different income and demand assumptions. Based on the results of these models and the level of reserves, the Trustees are satisfied that GroceryAid, the charitable company, has adequate resources to continue as a going concern.

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INVESTMENT POLICY AND PERFORMANCE

As at 31st March 2021, GroceryAid's investment fund, was valued at £8,947,345.

This is held by the Charity to underpin the value of Reserves retained to ensure the Charity's sustainability. The Trustees objective is that the Reserves do not decrease in real value by aiming to achieve long-term capital growth ahead of inflation.

The Reserves are also key in the provision of income to help fund current expenditure. To meet these objectives the Trustee Board has set a target return of CPI +2% per year over a rolling five-year period. This is a target and the Trustees acknowledge that due to fluctuations in markets this may not always be possible.

The GroceryAid Finance Committee is a sub-committee of the Trustee board and meets quarterly to review financial controls within the charity, oversee investment performance and recommend changes to the investments as necessary. Our Investment Policy allows us to manage the money we raise and the money we need to have in reserve for unforeseen eventualities.

At 31st March 2021, 98% of the reserves were invested in four Common Investment Funds. These are: Newton Growth and Income Fund for Charities, Newton Global Higher Income Fund, Rathbone's Core Investment Fund for Charities and CCLA Charities Property Fund. The remaining 2% is held in cash deposits.

With regard to ethical investing, the Trustees continue to be satisfied that our investment manager invest responsibly, having regard to the Environment, Social and Governance consideration and our managers exercise our stewardship responsibilities in an appropriate way. Any investments that may hamper the work of the Charity will be avoided as will those deemed inappropriate on moral grounds to avoid reputational damage to the charity, which could in turn negatively impact on fundraising activities. Investments that would pose a risk of significant financial detriment will also be avoided.

SUBSIDIARY COMPANY

The Charity has a wholly owned trading subsidiary which is incorporated in the U.K., GroceryAid Trading Limited, company registration No. 2952403. The company undertakes certain fundraising activities to raise money for its parent company, the Charity National Grocers Benevolent Fund. The company utilises resources from the parent company, which it pays for on an arms-length basis as resources are required

The social distancing rules implemented as part of the national response to the covid pandemic resulted in all events for the year to 31 March 2021 being cancelled. As a result, the company incurred a loss for the year of £424,865 and had net liabilities of £312,123 at the Balance Sheet date. The continuation of government restrictions through Spring 2021 means that the Trading company has moved the majority of it's events to Autumn 2021, and these are expected to go ahead providing government restrictions allow and would bring the Trading company back to a positive net assets position.

The Charity will continue to use the Trading Company in future years and will continue to review whether certain fundraising activities are more appropriate to the Trading Company.

FUTURE PLANS

Strategy and Business Plan

Our priorities for 2021/22 to further our charitable objects and deliver public benefit are to:

- Raise over £6.0M (net) through fundraising
- Support grocery colleagues through the Covid-19 crisis and beyond
- Ensure the maximum proportion of every pound spent by companies supporting GroceryAid flows through to beneficiaries

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- Continue to drive greater awareness of GroceryAid's services on shop and factory floors throughout our industry to reach out to more colleagues who need our support

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEE'S RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees (who are also the directors of National Grocers Benevolent Fund for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the group and charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the group for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- the Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

AUDITORS

A resolution will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting with regard to audit arrangements for the forthcoming financial year.

The charitable company has taken advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing this Trustees Report

BY ORDER OF THE TRUSTEES

Ruston Smith (Chairman)



01 September 2021

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS AND TRUSTEES OF NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, TRADING AS GROCERYAID

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of National Grocers Benevolent Fund for the year ended 31 March 2021 which comprise the Group Statement of Financial Activities, the Group and Parent Charitable Company Balance Sheets, the Group Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and the parent charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2021 and of the group's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 (as amended), regulations 6 and 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs(UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we

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identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' annual report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- Trustees' annual report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and parent charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' annual report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and the Charities Act 2011 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the parent charitable company has not kept adequate and sufficient accounting records, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the parent charitable company's financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of Trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the Trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies exemption in preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and from preparing a strategic report.

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the group and parent charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the group or parent charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under Section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Companies Act 2006 and Section 151 of the Charities Act 2011 and report to you in accordance with regulations made under those Acts.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in

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accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below.

Explanation as to what extent the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

The objectives of our audit in respect of fraud, are; to identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud; to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the assessed risks of material misstatement due to fraud, through designing and implementing appropriate responses to those assessed risks; and to respond appropriately to instances of fraud or suspected fraud identified during the audit. However, the primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of fraud rests with both management and those charged with governance of the charitable company.

Our approach was as follows:

- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory requirements applicable to the charitable company and considered that the most significant are the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 (as amended), regulations 6 and 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended), the Charities Act 2011, the Charity SORP, and UK financial reporting standards as issued by the Financial Reporting Council
- We obtained an understanding of how the charitable company complies with these requirements by discussions with management and those charged with governance.
- We assessed the risk of material misstatement of the financial statements, including the risk of material misstatement due to fraud and how it might occur, by holding discussions with management and those charged with governance.
- We inquired of management and those charged with governance as to any known instances of non-compliance or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- Based on this understanding, we designed specific appropriate audit procedures to identify instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. This included making enquiries of management and those charged with governance and obtaining additional corroborative evidence as required.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK) we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

1. Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
 2. Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purposes of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the group and parent charitable company's internal control.
- (i) Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Trustees.

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- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the group and parent charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the group or parent charitable company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the group to express an opinion on the consolidated financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the group audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit report.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006; and to the charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, and in respect of the consolidated financial statements, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 8 of the Charities Act 2011. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members and Trustees those matters which we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to any party other than the charitable company, the charitable company's members, as a body, and the charity's Trustees, as a body for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinion we have formed.

Moore Kingston Smith LLP

Date 11 October 2021

Andrew Stickland (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Moore Kingston Smith LLP, Statutory Auditor

Devonshire House
60 Goswell Road
London
EC1M 7AD

Moore Kingston Smith LLP is eligible to act as auditor in terms of Section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	4	4,432,822	716,666	5,149,487	2,072,688
Central fundraising	5	3,338,606	-	3,338,606	6,200,669
Branch fundraising	6	21,578	-	21,578	467,525
Investment Income	7	223,106	-	223,106	279,286
Total Income		8,016,122	716,666	8,732,777	9,020,167
Expenditure on:					
Cost of raising funds					
Central fundraising	5	1,637,557	-	1,614,806	4,386,373
Branch fundraising	6	3,315	-	3,115	217,036
Charitable activities					
Grants	8	2,893,728	508,055	3,401,783	2,659,624
Goods and services	8	1,393,258	184,799	1,577,037	1,624,727
Other Expenses	10	67,109	-	67,109	(214,609)
Total Expenditure		5,994,967	692,834	6,665,050	8,673,151
Net gains/(losses) on investments	15	1,402,655	-	1,402,655	(605,617)
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds		3,423,800	23,832	3,470,382	(258,600)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward from previous year		8,916,869	1,668	8,918,537	9,177,137
Total funds carried forward		12,340,669	25,500	12,388,919	8,918,537

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the period. All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

The notes on pages 22-38 form part of these financial statements.

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**CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET
AT 31ST MARCH 2021**

		Group		Charity	
	Notes	2021 £	2020 £	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed Assets					
Tangible assets	13	1,122,770	1,116,197	1,122,770	1,116,197
Intangible assets	14	48,465	45,384	48,465	45,384
Investments	15	8,947,345	7,328,752	8,957,345	7,338,752
Total fixed assets		10,118,580	8,490,333	10,128,580	8,500,333
Current Assets					
Debtors	16	1,928,303	3,087,731	257,760	1,428,307
Cash at bank and in hand	17	5,674,032	680,025	4,426,789	448,175
Total current assets		7,602,335	3,767,756	4,684,549	1,876,482
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	18	(5,331,996)	(3,339,552)	(2,102,086)	(2,198,682)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		2,270,339	428,204	2,582,463	(322,200)
NET ASSETS		12,388,919	8,918,537	12,711,043	8,178,133
FUNDS					
Unrestricted income fund	20	12,363,419	8,916,869	12,685,543	8,176,465
Restricted income fund	20	25,500	1,668	25,500	1,668
TOTAL FUNDS		12,388,919	8,918,537	12,711,043	8,178,133

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with provisions applicable to companies' subject to the small companies regime within part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on the 1st September 2021 and signed on their behalf by:



Ruston Smith, Chair, GroceryAid Trustees



David Wheeler, Treasurer GroceryAid

Charity Number 1095897

Company Number: 04620683

**CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

		2021		2020	
	Note	£	£	£	£
NET CASH USED IN OPERATING ACTIVITIES	23		5,037,113		(561,863)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES					
Dividends, Interest and Rents for Investment		223,106		279,286	
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(31,870)		(65,206)	
Purchase of intangible assets		(18,404)			
Proceeds from the sale of investments		-		500,000	
Purchase of investments		(215,938)		(274,035)	
Net cash provided by investing activities			(43,106)		440,045
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period			4,994,007		(121,818)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period			680,025		801,843
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	24		5,674,032		680,025

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2021

1. Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies of the charity are as follows:

a) **General information**

The charity is a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is 2 Lakeside Business Park, Swan Lane, Sandhurst, Berkshire, GU47 9DN.

b) **Statement of compliance and basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), and the Companies Act 2006.

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, except for investments which are included at fair value.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102, and has taken regard of the charity commissions guidance on public benefit, including 'Public Benefit: running a charity (PB2)'.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity, and are rounded to the nearest £.

c) **Going Concern**

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis which assumes that the company will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The social distancing rules implemented as part of the national response to the covid pandemic resulted in all events for the year to 31st March 2021 having to be cancelled. However, donation support from the Industry meant that we have been able to continue to support grocery colleagues through this difficult time. The cash balance is strong and the value of investments, that had suffered a significant reduction in value last year, have subsequently recovered to 103% of their value prior to the impact of the global pandemic on the markets in March 2020.

Events that had been planned for the first quarter in FY21 have been moved to Q3 FY21, in line with the government's plan for national un-lock.

The Trustees have assessed the principal risks and formulated a suitable reserves policy as stated above. In particular, the principal risks have been reviewed given the current Covid-19 environment. A number of scenarios have been modelled based on different income and demand assumptions. Based on the results of these models and the level of reserves, the Trustees are satisfied that GroceryAid, the charitable company, will be able to continue its operations and meet its liabilities as they fall due for at least twelve months from the date of approval of the financial statements. The charitable company therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

d) **Method of consolidation**

The financial statements consolidate the results and position of the subsidiary undertaking (see note 3) and all of the Charity's branches on a line-by-line basis in both the Statement of Financial Activities (including income and expenditure account) and the Balance Sheet.

e) **Incoming resources**

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement, it is probable that the amount will be received, and it can be measured reliably as follows:

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2021

Voluntary income

Income from donations is accounted for on a receipt.

Grant income

Grants are recognised when any conditions for entitlement are met. Grants received before the conditions for entitlement have been met are deferred and included in creditors at the year end.

Legacies

Income from legacies is accounted for on a receivable basis being included at the earliest of the date of receipt or at the point which notification is received, provided that there is sufficient evidence to provide the necessary probability that the legacy will be received.

Central and branch fundraising

Income from fundraising is accounted for on a receivable basis. Income associated with a particular event is reported only upon that event having taken place, with income received in advance of events being treated as deferred income.

Investment income

Income from investments is accounted for on a receivable basis.

Gifts in Kind and Donated Services

Items donated to the charity to assist with particular fundraising events are recognised in the financial statements at market value as income to and resources expended against the respective activities. The donation of services to the charity is similarly recognised within the financial statements by the inclusion of a charge to expenditure and a corresponding credit to income, based on the estimated market value.

f) **Resources expended**

Resources expended are accounted for on an accruals basis. The inclusion of costs within the various categories of expenditure was made on the following basis:

Costs of raising funds

This category is used to record any costs which are associated with the cost of raising funds from whatever source and will include costs incurred in attracting donations and sponsorship.

Investment management fees

The cost of managing the Charity's investment funds is not charged separately by the investment managers but is instead effectively recovered by way of a deduction from the funds.

Charitable activities

This category is used to record expenditure incurred in fulfilling the Charity's objectives: it includes the payment of monetary grants to beneficiaries, expenditure made in providing beneficiaries with goods and services, and the costs of distributing and administering such direct charitable provision. The cost of such provision, and that in respect of monetary grants in particular, is recognised when award of the grant has been communicated to the beneficiary. Grants are awarded on an annual basis and are subject to annual review.

Governance

This category comprises costs incurred in the general management of the Charity, as distinct from that concerned directly with the conduct of the Charity's operational activities, and includes those costs associated with ensuring that the Charity complies with applicable laws and regulations, to include the preparation of information required for public accountability.

Allocation and apportionment of costs

Expenditure is classified according to the above headings that aggregate all costs related to those categories, whether they be directly attributable or apportioned as such. The bases of the apportionment of costs are consistent with the use of the staff resources under each heading.

g) **Creditors**

Creditors are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2021

obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

h) Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported for assets and liabilities as at the balance sheet date and the amounts reported for income and expenditure during the year. However, the nature of estimation means that actual outcomes could differ from those estimates.

The key assumptions involving estimation uncertainty at the balance sheet date that have a risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets or liabilities within the next financial year are as follows:

Useful life of Tangible and Intangible fixed assets

Both Tangible and Intangible fixed assets are depreciated over their useful lives. The actual lives of the asset and residual values are assessed annually and may vary depending on a number of factors. The useful life is set depending upon asset class. The Trustees believe this is an appropriate methodology for valuing these fixed assets.

i) Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are depreciated over their useful lives taking into account residual values, where appropriate. The actual lives of the asset and residual values are assessed annually and may vary depending on a number of factors. Residual value assessments consider issues such as the remaining life of the asset and projected disposal values.

All assets costing over £250 are capitalised subject to considerations as to the likely useful life of each item. Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost. Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets over their estimated useful lives by equal annual instalments at the following rates:

Freehold interest in office premises	2% per annum
Freehold interest in buildings	1% per annum
Office equipment	20% per annum
Furniture fixtures and fittings	10% per annum

No depreciation is provided on freehold land.

j) Intangible assets

All assets costing over £250 are capitalised subject to considerations as to the likely useful life of each item. Intangible fixed assets are stated at cost. Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets over their estimated useful lives by equal annual instalments at the following rates:

Software	20% per annum
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k) Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the transaction price, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where it is recognised at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Current assets and current liabilities are measured at the cash or consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2021

l) Investments

Investments are a form of basic financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value as at the balance sheet date using the bid price. Gains and losses on the disposal and revaluation of investments are charged or credited to the Statement of Financial Activities. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their opening carrying value or their purchase value if acquired subsequent to the first day of the financial year. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and their carrying value. Realised and unrealised investment gains and losses are combined in the statement of financial activities. The charity does not acquire put options, derivatives or other complex financial instruments.

m) Fund accounting

Funds held by the charity as unrestricted funds are free for the Trustees to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charitable objects as set out in the Charity's Reserves policy. Designated funds are those that have been set aside by Trustees for specific purposes. Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions imposed by the donors. At the year end, any restricted fund deficits can be eliminated by a transfer from unrestricted funds unless the Trustees are of the opinion that such deficits will be eliminated by future giving. There are no transfers out of restricted fund unless approval is given by the donors.

During the year ending 31st March 2021, the Trustees created a designated fund to support grocery colleagues who had either suffered financial hardship or a bereavement directly relating to the Covid pandemic.

n) Pension costs

Pension contributions are charged in the financial statements as they become payable.

o) Publicity

Costs associated with the objective of raising awareness of the Charity and its profile, particularly within the grocery trade, are included under this sub-heading within Central Fundraising. This policy was adopted on the basis that increasing awareness of the Charity, particularly within the grocery industry, should enhance its relevance and influence and so, in turn, better enable it to raise funds through its various activities.

p) Irrecoverable VAT

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources expended for which it was incurred.

2. Results of the parent undertaking

The gross income and result of the parent charity excluding those of its subsidiary were as follows:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Gross income	9,385,748	6,417,875
Net movement in funds	4,532,911	(984,693)

3. Subsidiary undertaking

The charity has a wholly owned trading subsidiary, GroceryAid Trading Limited, by virtue of the ownership of that company's entire share capital of 10,000 ordinary £1 shares, to which all voting rights

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2021

are attached. The subsidiary is incorporated in the U.K., company registration number 02952403. GroceryAid Trading Limited may be used to operate certain activities that might be regarded as trading. The Trading Company's registered office is 2 Lakeside Business Park, Swan Lane, Sandhurst, GU47 9DN. The subsidiary donates its taxable profit to the National Grocers Benevolent Fund under the Gift Aid scheme. A summary of its trading results for the year to 31st March 2021 is shown below and accounts will be filed with the Registrar of Companies.

Profit and Loss Account - Summary	2021	2020
	£	£
Turnover	19,485	2,845,407
Net Profit/(Loss) and Retained Reserves	(424,865)	740,405

The subsidiary's net assets were comprised as follows:

Debtors	1,976,556	2,249,415
Cash at Bank	1,247,244	231,851
Creditors	(3,535,923)	(1,730,861)
Net Assets/(Liabilities)	(312,123)	750,405

4. Voluntary Income – Donations and Legacies

	2021	2020
	£	£
Donations - unrestricted	4,432,821	1,606,022
Voluntary Income – restricted:		
Grant from Leverhulme Trade Charities Trust	466,666	466,666
Funds for retailer hardship fund	250,000	-
TOTAL	5,149,487	2,072,688

Donated gifts in kind of coupons and goods etc. for hampers included above are £nil (2020: £19,822). In accordance with FRS 102 and the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the economic contribution of general volunteers is not recognised in the accounts.

5. Fundraising – all Unrestricted

Central fundraising	2021		
	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Surplus</u>
Central fundraising - unrestricted	3,226,736	(397,025)	2,829,711
Allocated support costs		(1,105,911)	(1,105,911)
PR Marketing	111,870	(111,870)	0
Total current central fundraising	3,338,606	(1,614,806)	1,723,800
Gifts in Kind	-	-	-
Total	3,338,606	(1,614,806)	1,723,800

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2021

<u>Central fundraising</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>2020 Expenses</u>	<u>Surplus</u>
Central fundraising - unrestricted	5,415,941	(2,688,033)	2,744,908
Allocated support costs		(913,612)	(913,612)
PR Marketing	137,699	(137,699)	0
Total current central fundraising	5,553,640	(3,739,344)	1,814,296
Gifts in Kind	647,029	(647,029)	-
Total	6,200,669	(4,386,373)	1,831,296

PR Marketing costs includes the estimated value of discounted advertisements placed in various trade publications of £111,870 (2020: £137,699) and related development work. This support is to help raise the awareness of the work of the charity and its fundraising efforts.

6. Branch fundraising

	<u>Income</u>	<u>2021 Expenses</u>	<u>Surplus</u>	<u>2020 Surplus</u>
	£	£	£	£
Total Branch Fundraising	21,578	(3,315)	18,263	250,488

Gifts in Kind are included in the individual branch fundraising income and expenses above amounting to £nil in total (2020 £nil)

7. Investment income

	<u>2021 Unrestricted Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>	<u>2020 Total Funds</u>
	£	£	£
Dividend and other investment income	222,086	222,086	275,784
Bank deposit interest receivable	26	26	2,508
Other investment income	994	994	994
Total Investment Income	223,106	279,286	279,286

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2021

8. Charitable expenditure

2021

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
Monetary Grants	2,228,805	508,055	2,736,860
Provision of goods and services	1,108,291	184,779	1,293,070
Allocated support costs	949,890	-	949,890
Total	4,286,986	692,834	4,979,820

2020

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
Monetary Grants	1,781,714	265,127	2,046,841
Provision of goods and services	1,162,233	199,872	1,362,105
Allocated support costs	875,405	-	875,405
Total	3,819,352	464,998	4,284,351

The grants paid to individuals are to relieve financial hardship in accordance with the objects of the Charity. The provision of goods and services includes one-off crisis payments, provision of basic essentials, helpline facilities, respite and other goods and services in furtherance of the charity's objects.

9. Governance costs

	2021 £	2020 £
Audit – Current year	22,240	36,822
Audit – Relating to Prior year	-	-
Meetings	1,500	702
Legal advice	72,422	27,137
Trustees' expenses	48	-
Trustees' indemnity insurance	934	2,387
	97,144	67,048

10. Other Expenses

	2021 £	2020 £
Legal advice	67,111	99,490
Release of other creditor	-	(314,099)
	(67,111)	(214,609)

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2021

Legal advice in both 2020/21 and 2019/20 relate to the legal and professional costs incurred in terms of the investigation into accounting irregularities in one of our volunteer fundraising branches. This matter has now been concluded.

During the year 2019/20, an amount held in relation to a historical creditor was released.

11. Support Costs

2021	Central Fundraising £	Charitable Activities £	Governance £	Total
Staff related costs	842,897	541,431	136,953	1,521,282
Direct costs (note 9)	-	-	97,144	97,144
Overheads	248,855	152,365	11,803	423,216
Governance costs	-	256,094	(256,094)	-
Total allocation	1,091,753	949,890	-	2,041,643

2020	Central Fundraising £	Charitable Activities £	Governance £	Total
Staff related costs	711,825	521,003	131,841	1,364,669
Direct costs (note 9)	-	-	67,048	67,048
Overheads	194,131	143,710	11,803	349,644
Governance costs	-	210,692	(210,692)	-
Total allocation	905,956	875,405	-	1,781,361

The costs shown above are not specific to any one activity and have been allocated on the basis of a judgement as to the proportion of time spent on each of the activities.

12. Staff costs

	2021 £	2020 £
Salaries	1,221,767	1,072,265
Temp Staff	1,440	30,206
Employer's National Insurance	130,447	109,122
Pension contributions	98,176	82,158
Health insurance	9,738	7,071
	1,461,568	1,300,822

The average monthly head count was 29 staff (2020: 26 Staff) and the average monthly number of employees (including casual and part-time staff) during the year was as follows:

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2021

	2021	2020
Charitable welfare	13.2	13.2
Fundraising	14.1	11.9
Governance	1.7	1.3
Average Headcount	29.0	26.4

7 out of the total of 29 employees at the year-end are part-time (2020: 8 out of 26 employees). There were 6 employees (2020: 4 employees) with emoluments above £60,000 per annum.

The number of senior post holders and other staff who receive emoluments, excluding pension contributions but including benefits in kind, in the following ranges were:

	2021	2020
£60,000 to £69,999	2	1
£70,000 to £79,999	-	1
£80,000 to £89,999	2	
£90,000 to £99,999	-	-
£100,000 to £109,999	1	1
£110,000 to £119,999	-	-
£120,000 to £129,999	-	-
£130,000 to £139,999	1	1

(ii) The pension arrangements operated by the charity are for all members of staff and provide benefits on a defined contribution basis. Contributions paid in accordance with the rules of the scheme are charged to the statement of financial activities as they become payable. The cost for the year was £98,176 (2020: £82,158) and there were no outstanding or prepaid contributions at the balance sheet date.

(iii) The charity holds an investment bond, valued in the accounts at £2,810 (2020: £4,412), which is used to supplement the pension of a former Director General.

(iv) Funds belonging to the Charity have been used for the purchase of insurance to indemnify the Trustees against the consequences of any neglect or default on their part. The cost recognised for the year in providing that insurance was £934 (2020: £2,387).

(v) The key management personnel of the charity comprise the Trustees, Chief Executive, Fundraising Director, Welfare Director and Corporate Services Director & Company Secretary. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £497,378 (2020: £449,751), reflecting that the management team was not fully in place for the previous financial year.

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2021

13. Tangible assets

	Freehold land and buildings £	Office Equipment £	Furniture, fixtures and fittings £	Total £
<u>Cost:</u>				
Brought forward	1,197,855	113,038	19,573	1,330,466
Additions	-	15,047	16,822	31,869
Disposals	-	(31,870)	-	(31,870)
Carried forward	1,197,855	96,215	36,395	1,330,465
<u>Depreciation</u>				
Brought forward	129,201	75,214	9,854	214,269
Charge for year	12,213	10,701	1,874	24,789
Disposals	-	(31,362)	-	(31,362)
Carried forward	141,414	54,544	11,728	207,696
Net book value carried forward	1,056,422	41,661	24,667	1,122,720
Net book value brought forward	1,068,654	37,824	9,719	1,116,197

All of the Charity group's fixed assets were held for functional charity use and other than one freehold property which is retained for direct charitable purposes; all assets are used in the running and administration of the Charity.

14. Intangible assets

	Website £	Software £	Total £
<u>Cost:</u>			
Brought forward	23,576	125,077	148,653
Additions	12,144	6,260	18,404
Disposals	-	-	-
Carried forward	35,720	131,337	167,057
<u>Depreciation</u>			
Brought forward	-	103,269	103,269
Charge for year	5,357	9,966	15,323
Disposals	-	-	-
Carried forward	5,357	113,235	118,592
Net book value carried forward	30,363	18,102	48,465
Net book value brought forward	23,576	21,808	45,385

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2021

15. Investments

	Group		Charity	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
<u>Analysis of Movement of Investments</u>				
Market value at beginning of year	7,328,752	8,170,333	7,338,752	8,170,333
Additions to investments at cost	215,938	274,036	215,938	274,036
Disposals at market value	-	(500,000)	-	(500,000)
Net gain/(loss) on revaluation	1,402,655	(605,617)	1,402,655	(605,617)
Market value at end of year	8,947,345	7,338,752	8,947,345	7,338,752
<u>Investments held</u>				
Listed investments	8,947,345	7,328,752	8,947,345	7,328,752
Investments in subsidiary undertakings	-	-	10,000	10,000
Total investments held	8,947,345	7,328,752	8,957,345	7,338,752

Unrestricted fund investments consist of a portfolio of listed investments managed on the charity's behalf by professional fund managers. The following investments make up more than 5% of the total investment portfolio:

	% of total	Market Value
BNY Mellon Global Income Fund Newton Inst Shares 1	31%	£2,741,180
Newton Growth and Income Fund for Charities Inc Class	29%	£2,557,648
Rathbones Core Investment Fund for Charities	26%	£2,351,884
CCLA COIF Charities Property Fund	14%	£1,293,823

16. Debtors

	Group		Charity	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
Current:				
Trade debtors	1,219,909	2,135,033	42,387	1,272,912
Other debtors	473,770	798,803	1,500	1,500
Prepayments	75,985	31,752	75,985	31,752
Accrued income	129,777	114,032	129,777	114,032
	1,897,441	3,079,620	249,649	1,420,196
Loans receivable secured on property	8,111	8,111	8,111	8,111
	1,905,552	3,087,731	257,760	1,428,307

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2021

17. Cash at bank and in hand

	Group		Charity	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Head office bank current account	4,418,784	432,766	4,418,784	432,766
Head office deposit accounts	74	74	74	74
Trading Co bank account	1,247,243	231,850	-	-
Branch bank accounts *	7,931	15,335	7,931	15,335
	5,674,032	680,025	4,426,789	448,175

*Deposit account in Northern Ireland only.

18. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Group		Charity	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Trade creditors	(189,263)	(563,007)	(181,157)	(227,892)
Other creditors	(4,073,007)	(2,242,911)	(896,199)	(877,810)
Accruals	(37,554)	11,985	(33,094)	(6,630)
Deferred income	(1,032,172)	(545,619)	(689,369)	(500,105)
Amounts due to subsidiary undertaking	-	-	(302,267)	(586,245)
	(5,331,996)	(3,339,552)	(2,102,086)	(2,198,682)

Movement on deferred income balances was as follows:

Balance brought forward	(545,619)	(801,620)	(744,217)	(744,217)
Released to statement of financial activities	545,619	801,620	744,217	744,217
Fund raising proceeds received	(1,032,172)	(545,619)	(689,369)	(500,105)
Balance carried forward	(1,032,172)	(545,619)	(689,369)	(500,105)

19. Commitments under operating lease

	2021	2020
	£	£
Office equipment		
Amounts to be paid		
Within 1 year	5,748	6,231
Between 2 - 5 Years	3,451	9,199
Over 5 Years	-	-
	9,199	15,430

Operating lease costs in the year ending 31st March 2021, were £6,231. (2020: £5,005)

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2021

20. Funds

At the balance sheet date restricted funds were represented by current assets with the balance of the Charity's assets and liabilities were representing the unrestricted funds.

The Designated Funds represent the balance of funds designated by the Trustees to offer enhanced mental health support, bereavement grants and crisis grants for grocery people directly afflicted by Covid-19

The Restricted Funds are the unspent balance of the Leverhulme Trade Charities Trust grant received during the year, which can only be used for certain categories of our beneficiaries, plus unspent funds received from a retailer for a hardship fund administered by the charity for their employees only

GROUP	Brought forward	Income	Expenditure	Gains/ (losses)	Transfers	Carried forward
Year to 31 March 2021						
General funds						
Unrestricted fund	8,916,869	6,516,112	(5,365,348)	1,402,655	-	11,470,288
Designated funds		1,500,000	(606,869)			893,131
Total general funds	8,916,869	8,016,112	(5,972,217)	1,402,655	-	12,363,419
Restricted funds						
Leverhulme Trade Charities Trust	1,668	466,666	(468,334)	-	-	0
Retailer hardship fund	-	250,000	(224,500)	-	-	25,500
Total restricted funds	1,668	716,666	(692,834)	-	-	25,500
Total funds	8,918,536	8,732,778	(6,665,051)	1,402,655	-	12,388,918

CHARITY	Brought forward	Income	Expenditure	Gains/ (losses)	Transfers	Carried forward
Year to 31 March 2021						
General funds						
Unrestricted fund	8,176,464	7,169,082	(4,955,789)	1,402,655	-	11,792,412
Designated funds	-	1,500,00	(606,869)			
Total general funds	8,176,464	8,669,082	(5,562,658)	1,402,655	-	11,792,412
Restricted funds						
Leverhulme Trade Charities Trust	1,668	466,666	(468,334)	-	-	-
Retailer hardship fund	-	250,000	224,500	-	-	25,500
Total restricted funds	-	716,666	(692,834)	-	-	25,500
Total funds	8,178,132	9,385,748	(6,255,492)	1,402,655	-	12,711,043

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2021

GROUP & CHARITY	Brought forward	Income	Expenditure	Gains/ (losses)	Transfers	Carried forward
Year to 31 March 2020						
General funds						
Unrestricted income fund	7,848,414	8,553,501	(8,208,153)	(605,617)	-	7,588,146
Revaluation reserve	1,328,723	-	-	-	-	1,328,723
Total general funds	9,177,137	8,553,501	(8,208,153)	(605,617)	-	8,916,869
Restricted funds						
Leverhulme Trade Charities Trust	-	466,666	(464,998)	-	-	1,668
Other Trusts	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total restricted funds	-	466,666	(464,998)	-	-	1,668
Total funds	9,177,137	9,020,167	(8,673,151)	(605,617)	-	8,918,537

21. Net assets

2021 Consolidated Group	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	1,122,770	-	1,122,770
Intangible fixed assets	48,465	-	48,465
Investments	8,947,345	-	8,947,345
Current assets	7,554,084	25,500	7,579,584
Current liabilities	(5,331,996)	-	(5,331,996)
Total	12,685,543	25,550	12,711,043

2021 Charity	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	1,122,770	-	1,122,770
Intangible fixed assets	48,465	-	48,465
Investments	8,957,345	-	8,957,345
Current assets	4,659,049	25,500	4,684,549
Current liabilities	(2,102,086)	-	(2,102,086)
Total	12,685,543	25,550	12,711,043

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2021

2020 Consolidated Group	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	1,116,197	-	1,116,197
Intangible fixed assets	45,384	-	45,384
Investments	7,328,752	-	7,328,752
Current assets	3,766,088	1,668	3,767,756
Current liabilities	(3,339,552)	-	(3,339,552)
Total	8,916,869	1,668	8,918,537

2020 Charity	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	1,116,197	-	1,116,197
Intangible fixed assets	45,384	-	45,384
Investments	7,338,752	-	7,338,752
Current assets	1,874,814	1,668	1,876,482
Current liabilities	(2,198,682)	-	(2,198,682)
Total	8,176,465	1,668	8,178,133

22. Legal status of the Charity

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of a winding up is limited to £1.

23. Reconciliation of Net Incoming Resources to Net Cash (Outflow)/Inflow from Operating Activities

	2021	2020
	£	£
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period	3,470,382	(244,287)
Income from investments	(223,080)	(276,778)
Interest receivable	(26)	(2,508)
(Gains)/losses on investments	(1,402,655)	605,617
Depreciation	(24,789)	48,665
Amortisation	(15,323)	-
Loss (Profit) on sale of fixed assets	508	-
(Increase)/Decrease in debtors	1,182,179	(749,699)
Increase/(Decrease) in creditors	1,992,444	57,127
Net cash (outflow)/inflow from operating activities	5,037,113	(561,863)

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2021

24. Reconciliation of Net cash Flow Movement in Net Funds

	2021 £	2020 £
Increase/(decrease) in cash in the period	4,994,007	(121,818)
Change in net funds	4,994,007	(121,818)
Net funds at 1 April	680,025	801,843
Net funds at 31 March	5,674,032	680,025

25. Analysis of changes in Net Funds

	1-Apr-2020 £	Cash flows £	31-Mar-2021 £
Cash at bank	680,025	4,994,007	5,674,032

26. Related party transactions

During the year ending 31st March 2021, there were no related party transactions (2020: nil).

27. Parent company Statement of Financial Activity

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Income from:				
Donations and legacies	5,070,485	716,666	5,787,151	2,087,001
Central fundraising	3,353,912	-	3,353,912	3,584,064
Branch fundraising	21,578	-	21,578	467,525
Investment Income	223,106	-	3,353,912	279,286
Total Income	8,669,082	716,666	9,385,748	6,417,875
Expenditure on:				
Cost of generating funds				
Central fundraising	1,205,246	-	1,205,246	2,510,173
Branch fundraising	3,315	-	3,315	217,036
Charitable activities				
Grants	2,893,728	508,005	3,401,783	2,659,624
Goods and services	1,393,258	184,779	1,578,037	1,624,727
Other Expenses	67,111	-	67,111	(214,609)
Total Expenditure	5,562,658	692,834	6,255,492	6,796,951

NATIONAL GROCERS BENEVOLENT FUND, trading as GROCERYAID
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2021

Net gains/(losses) on investments	1,402,655	-	1,402,655	(605,617)
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds	4,509,079	23,832	4,532,911	(984,693)
Reconciliation of funds:				
Total funds brought forward from previous year	8,176,464	1,668	8,178,132	9,162,824
Total funds carried forward	12,685,543	25,500	12,711,043	8,178,132